

Holding the line at CLEA

The CLEA conference (pages 8 and 9) split on clear-cut lines within the first 10 minutes. An innocuous motion on the virtues of partnership and how nice it would be if Sir Keith would consent to be a model partner, proposed by Philip Merridale, kingpin of the Association of County Councils, was amended to be a blistering condemnation at the instance of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' champion, John Pearman. And so it went on with AMA-inspired motions about Burnham and teachers' salaries calculated to divide local politicians on wholly predictable lines with a steady Labour majority of about three to two.

None of this did CLEA much good, least of all with the county representatives, a number of whom began to slip away after lunch on Thursday with expressions of righteous indignation and regrets that the conference "did not discuss education" but simply enjoyed sterile party bickering.

More serious from CLEA's point of view was the large number of authorities which hadn't bothered to come at all. About a third of all I.e.s.s. did not send any elected representatives to Newcastle, which explained the succession of divisions in which only 60-65 votes were cast.

The issue which had threatened to divide the conference most damagingly - the Manpower Services Commission's takeover of 2.5 per cent of non-advanced FE - was "fixed" up by a backstairs deal between the ACC and AMA.

A motion was proposed reaffirming total opposition, which restated the view originally adopted by AMA and ACC. But this was quickly remitted to the executive to avoid a vote. Some of the counties would undoubtedly have carried out their pre-stated intention to abstain, or even, out of Conservative loyalty, vote against.

The common front has been held, however, at least publicly, and this is good, but it is paper thin. Neither of the local authority associations, nor CLEA, can answer for their members in the sense of whipping them into line. And, undoubtedly, some I.e.s.s. are already talking to the MSC (though fewer than the MSC and the DES had expected.) The CLEA resolution will not stop others from following suit now that the Government's threats on RSG have been carried a stage further. But this doesn't mean it is not worth continuing the fight. The MSC badly needs a compromise. Even those who believe that, in the end, the power of the purse will win, must also reckon that the I.e.s.s. and the colleges will get a better deal by holding out to the end, collectively, than by being picked off one by one.

The MSC's NAFE takeover has not been properly thought out. It is wrong in conception, not just as some CLEA delegates seemed to suggest, because it undermines local government. Even if it is believed

(on what evidence?) that the colleges' industrial efforts could be improved by more MSC influence and information, it doesn't follow that vocational education is best served by making the MSC the paymaster and the colleges mere contractors.

There are advantages in some commercial activities for the customer who retains the freedom to deal with a range of contractors on a short-term basis. But these are not relevant to vocational education.

The quality of what is provided will depend in large measure on the quality of the colleges as institutions. Such quality - of staff and ethos - can only be built up over time. Continuity is of the essence in establishing this institutional base. It is not just a matter of fulfilling specified tasks for the MSC - as a building contractor carries out specific instructions from an architect - but of creating the circumstances in which the colleges themselves can excel, and in doing so, discover new needs which they can meet. Dependence on MSC short-term contracts, which in turn means relying on short-term contract staff, is no way to maintain, let alone improve, non-advanced FE and the professional skill it needs to call upon.

For all their indignation at Newcastle, CLEA representatives let Sir Keith off very lightly at question time. He simply reaffirmed the Government's intention to go ahead, reasserted its right to form the "impression" that all was not well and the "belief" that MSC could do better. The critics were too tired or too polite to press him and he withdrew, amazed at their moderation.

Curriculum aims

Earlier, Sir Keith had chosen to speak at length about his plans for public intervention in the school curriculum. In the course of a brief introduction he outlined a formidable list of discussion papers, reports, Government statements and circulars, now in the pipeline:

- An HMI discussion paper on the primary curriculum - "in the autumn".
- An HMI discussion paper on the 11-16 curriculum - "on the stocks".
- Policy statements on science and foreign languages "in the light of our consultations".
- An HMI discussion paper on objectives in English - "in the autumn".
- A statement of objectives for mathematics based on Cockcroft - "before the end of the year".
- "Discussion and draft policy papers on other subjects will follow in due course".
- A discussion paper on "breadth, balance, relevance and differentiation" in the 11-16 curriculum - "shortly" for the local authority associations, "subsequently" to others.
- Examples of good work in English, maths and science, culled from APU surveys - "next year".

□ A Government paper, drawing conclusions from replies to Circular 8/83 on I.e.s.s. curriculum policies - now in hand.

This promised flood of official pronouncements shows the breadth and depth of Sir Keith's ambitions, when he talks about arriving at "broadly - agreed objectives" for the curriculum.

What he described was not a finished product - a set of guidelines or a list of objectives - but a process which could take us long to complete as Penelope's endless woollen comforter. Most of the papers which he heralded were discussion documents. Some of them might be on the way to becoming Government statements and official policy. Others have an HMI label and are, themselves, contributions to the larger discussion which do not commit him.

An initiative in depth like this certainly absolves Sir Keith of accusations of superficiality, but it also threatens to make it difficult to achieve clarity. With so many separate elements, the final equation will become increasingly difficult to put together. So many official and semi-official documents will flash across the educational scene that critics will be able to pick and choose their authorities. It will be surprising if from such a treasury of sacred texts the devil cannot find Scripture to quote in defence of favoured heresies.

All this looks a bit different from the statement of national objectives long-promised by the year end. Those who (like *The TES*) do not share the faith which Sir Keith appears to invest in statements of objectives, must now have some apprehension added to their scepticism. It is clear that Sir Keith wants to fill out his notion of objectives to the point where, by defining the end product, he has gone a long way to prescribe also the process required to achieve it. He is perfectly sincere in his protestations that he has no desire to establish a national curriculum, but the farther he goes in linking his objectives exercise to detailed curriculum studies in the major subject areas, and DES statements on "breadth, balance, relevance and differentiation", the harder it is going to be to avoid doing just this.

Of course, there is the saving grace that pumping out vast quantities of DES papers is not the same as getting people to read it, let alone act on it - I.e.s.s. will have their work cut out to translate Sir Keith's documents into their own curriculum policies and plans for resource allocation; governors (with or without all those parents) will have to read them and digest them and distill from them the wisdom to guide them in establishing objectives and aims of each school. It is a tall order. All Sir Keith can do is publish his views on the curriculum and hope that the I.e.s.s. and the governors take them aboard. Perhaps they will be impressed by the thickness of his documentation even if confused by its profusion.

If the cap fits...

Although the Environment Secretary has tried hard to offset the constitutional horrors of rate-capping by selling the Rate Support Grant settlement overall as generous, that is not the way it is going to look to the education service.

At best, Patrick Jenkin is honouring his Pym promise (and remembering next year's county council elections) by giving a better deal to the hard-pressed but faithful Tory shires.

So the good boys in the counties, and a few more in the metropolitan districts and outer London boroughs, are rewarded with provisional targets 4.25 per cent higher than their current 1984-85 budgets. This means, in effect, a standstill if Jenkin's own estimate of inflation (4.25 per cent) is achieved.

So there is not much hope of the extra spending on empty bookshelves or woodwork that HMIs have hoped for (though it is worth noting that Dudley and Sutton, where the Inspectorate has been particularly tough on spending policies, are allowed larger rises of 6.37 and 4.65 per cent respectively). Some counties, such as Francis Pym's own Cambridgeshire, will not find the concession big enough to get them off the hook. There may, therefore, still be cutting to come and the usual threats of redundancies, even in the most favoured areas. Next year's teachers' pay settlement has also to be accommodated.

So much for the good news. Overall it seems education will be short by £500m of what is needed to maintain current spending. By the DES's own calculation, the average increase in budgets for those local authorities with responsibility for education will be just over 3 per cent, which undoubtedly means cuts once allowance is made for inflation.

Within this averagely grey picture, the Government's policy of "generous" public spending plans, coupled with vicious penalties for even the first per cent of overspend, will concentrate the worst cuts in a range of urban authorities, some of whom may be able to draw on balances to stave off the crunch. Those inner city areas which just missed appearing on the 18-strong hit-list for capping will have a particularly tough time.

It is not yet clear how far the four education authorities in that list are going to follow David Blunkett of Sheffield down the Liverpool path of all-out confrontation with the Government. ILEA, for one, is already drawing back slightly by deciding to put the issue to Londoners first through a public consultation on the budget.

In any event, the crunch would be delayed until February or March when the rate is due to be set but, whatever the merits of the case, it has to be said that a cliff-hanger is the last thing the education service needs in ILEA, Haringey, Sheffield or Brent. All-out campaigning is a sure recipe for the neglect of educational issues; stalemate and the threat of unpaid salaries, are no way to boost morale.

no comment

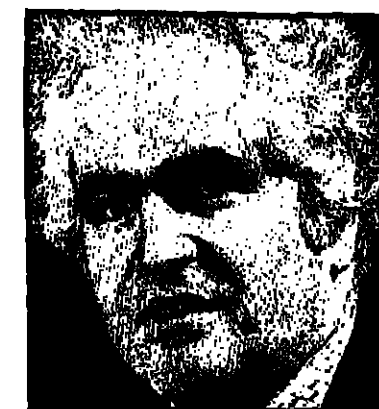
Part I
FE: The Future Funding of Youth Training Scheme Courses
Report of the Chief Education Officer (EO/84/191) (BLUE paper)

Part II
NI: (It is considered necessary to go into Part II the following resolution should be passed - "that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, the Committee being of the opinion that the publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted".)

From Devon Education Committee agenda, July 24, 1984

Inner cities face cuts of up to 6%

Biddy Passmore assesses the impact of rate-capping and Government spending targets for the coming year on different local authorities



Giles Radice... forecast appalling cuts.

announced on Tuesday, makes the prospect of exceeding their targets scarcely more inviting for the rest. For the first 1 per cent of overspending, councils will lose grant equivalent to a 7p rate, rising to 8p for the second percentage point and 9p for every subsequent percentage point of over-spending.

These are very much harsher than the current year's penalties, which start at a fine of 2p in the pound. Mr Jenkin said on Tuesday that was because the new spending targets were realistic. "It is only fair in return to expect that they will be met", he added, "and to take a firm line with anyone who sees this as an opportunity to boost spending."

A further stick to beat councils into containing their costs is a 3 per cent reduction in the amount of their spending through Rate Support Grant. That will drop from 51.9 to 48.8 per cent, making local government more dependent on the ratepayer than on the taxpayer.

Overall, the Government has adjusted its local government spending plans upwards by some £200m since the last public spending White Paper. The figure would have been more like £900m, but for adjustments to transport funding and the switch of £65m from non-advanced further education from I.e.s.s. to the Manpower Services Commission.

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That switch has meant a reduction in targets for all education authorities amounting to more than £1m in some counties - more than £2m for Hampshire - and £3m for the ILEA.

The plans now provide for local spending next year of about £21.8 billion, of which about half will go to education. Education authorities will have on average 3 per cent more to spend on all services than they are budgeting to spend this year.

Apart from the four rate-capped education authorities, those facing a cash freeze or a slight cash cut (1½ per cent is the maximum) are: Avon (-0.36 per cent), Cheshire (-0.92 per cent), Cleveland (-1.24 per cent), Derbyshire (-1.19 per cent), the London borough of Hounslow (-0.75 per cent), and Sunderland (-1.50 per cent).

But Northumberland, the Merseyside boroughs of Knowsley, Liverpool and St Helens, and Doncaster, Newcastle, North Tyneside and Bradford fare hardly better, with targets less than 1 per cent higher in cash than their current budgets.

Meanwhile, local authorities have reacted with indignation to the news that the Government is imposing a "go-slow" on their capital spending in the present financial year, after years of urging them to spend more.

Mr Patrick Jenkin has asked them, at the Treasury's insistence, to restrict their building and maintenance programmes to their capital allocations and half of the income they get from selling off buildings and land this year. Last year's overspending of £368m arose because councils were spending too much of their income from previous years, he said.

Tables next week

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Burnham panel seeks old rules on arbitration

by Richard Garner

Teachers' leaders have urged employers to join them in pressing the Government to revert to old rules about sending their pay claim to arbitration. This, they claim, could spare schools from disruption.

At a meeting on Tuesday, the teachers' panel of the Burnham committee, which negotiates pay, agreed to ask the employers.

Until 1981, Sir John Wordie, the independent chairman of the committee, could declare a breakdown in negotiations and refer the claim to arbitration if it looked as though further negotiation would not be fruitful.

However, Mr Mark Carlisle, the then Education Secretary, changed the rules so that both sides had to agree before a pay claim could be referred to arbitration.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said that twice in the past three years teachers had been forced to resort to industrial action to get the employers to agree to go to arbitration.

"Schools ought to be spared from that", he said, "but the employers just took delivery of what we said, but weren't prepared to comment on it."

The teachers' panel of the Burnham committee has now drawn up its evidence for this year's arbitration hearing and, as expected, it draws from the pay data working party on teachers' salaries, compiled earlier this year, which shows teachers' pay has slipped behind the pay of other comparable professions.

The teachers are seeking a substantial rise to restore their pay to proper professional levels. The employers, who will plead that they are unable to meet the claim because of government spending restrictions on local authorities, have offered a 4.5 per cent increase.

It also emerged this week that the long-awaited arbitration hearing into this year's teachers' pay claim is now almost certain to be held in the third week of August.

Amid further recriminations between teachers' leaders and their employers over delays in fixing the hearing, ACAS, the Government's conciliation and arbitration service, suggested August 20 as the first of two possible dates for the hearing.

If it goes ahead then, the result of the arbitrators' deliberations could be known by early September - although any increase would be unlikely to find its way into teachers' pay packets before October.

The hearing into the college lecturers' pay claim, which has also been referred to arbitration, is likely to take place on August 22.

Meanwhile, the recriminations continued at Tuesday's Burnham committee meeting with teachers' leaders rejecting an assertion by the employers that they had not sought to delay the hearing.

Professor Eric Armstrong, professor of industrial relations at the Manchester Business School until his recent retirement, is to chair both the teachers' and college lecturers' arbitration hearings.

Professor Armstrong is also deputy chairman of the central arbitration committee set up by ACAS and has for the past 10 years worked for the arbitration service.

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NAB split on campus equality

by Karen Gold

Senior civil servants from the Department of Education and Science are resisting proposals by the board of the National Advisory Body to treat universities, polytechnics and colleges as equals.

DES members of the NAB board said at its latest meeting this week they could not support planning in the proposed NAB long-term strategy paper which argued that universities and public sector institutions were of equal quality.

They also said they could not support the proposal that all institutions should be funded equally per degree student for teaching purposes (though not for research), as the paper argues.

The paper, which has been considerably reworked, also proposes an extension of access by allowing students with only one A level to qualify for diploma courses. That too was opposed by the DES. The paper will be considered by the NAB committee early next month.

The board meeting, which lasted all day, also failed to agree on the fate of the one diversified college proposed for closure by the NAB chairman's group: De La Salle college, Manchester.

In a very close vote the board agreed to postpone a decision on De La Salle until the autumn, because the college's future could not be decided without reference to the new Voluntary Sector Consultative Council - *THES*.

In-service plan backed

by Bert Lodge

A new plan (outlined in *The TES*, July 20) to ensure increased and guaranteed funding of in-service training for teachers by local authorities was agreed in principle by the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers on Tuesday.

SHA voices doubts on restructuring

Plans for restructuring teachers' salaries will weaken incentives within schools, according to one of the teachers' unions taking part in the discussions.

The 3,500-strong Secondary Heads Association is seeking a meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, in the autumn to discuss its fears over the proposals.

The SHA says that it is concerned that there will be too few posts in schools established above the main professional grade - which it is expected most teachers will be on.

Under the management proposals, the post of team leader would be established in schools. They would direct and supervise a group of teachers and their numbers would be directly related to the number of full-time equivalent teaching posts in schools. The management suggests team leaders should be given an allowance of the order of £1,000 a year.

In addition, schools should have assistant heads whose salaries would be roughly within the range of 75 per cent of 80 per cent of the headteacher. The number of assistant heads, says a management paper, should roughly constitute 5 per cent of the teaching force.

However, the SHA says "Present proposals will certainly weaken incentives within schools, since few promotion prospects will be available outside the main professional grades".

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The allegations of bias directed by the DES against the Open University's introductory social science course (TES, July 6) have seriously damaged the university's public image. At the same time, the action of the DES, in commenting on the content of a particular course, must cause serious concern for the future independence of British universities.

Sir Keith Joseph's term as Secretary of State for Education has been marked by an increasing attempt to intervene in the detail of what is taught. He has been particularly sceptical of the social sciences, perhaps because of his previous experience as Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, where he commissioned research into the cycle of deprivation which showed the social sciences to be largely unhelpful to his beliefs. In that case an expensive research programme failed to substantiate the proposition that poverty and deprivation are transmitted by the parenting practices of the deviant poor. This classic example of blaming the victim turned out to be only one of many factors involved. Worse still, some researchers made it clear that to tackle poverty required the two measures most disliked by Sir Keith: income and wealth redistribution and increased social spending.

As the new Education Secretary, Sir Keith moved from this brush with the social sciences to an immediate confrontation with the Social Science Research Council. Lord Rothschild was commissioned to report on the Council, in a move widely seen as a preliminary to its abolition. In fact, Rothschild's report was generally sympathetic and he recommended that the Council's budget be maintained.

Sir Keith had to be satisfied with a £6m budget cut, the appointment of a chairman, Sir Douglas Hague, who supported the Government's broad policy objectives, and who had been a friend and adviser to the Prime Minister since 1966, and the renaming of the Council as the Economic and Social Research Council.

This background is useful in providing a broader context for the Secretary of State's unprecedented degree of interest and interference in the content of the Open University's social science courses.

It is said that the economics block of the introductory social science course is biased and that the subject is largely presented from a Marxist perspective. The criticisms run to some 17 pages and represent disagreements about the way in which economics should be approached as well as disputes about what should be included in an introductory course. Such disputes are endemic to academic life and it is perhaps worth recalling the judgment of Rothschild: "There are Conservative economists. Socialist economists.

Right: one of the illustrations in the course material which may have displeased the DES.

Martin Loney rebuts the complaints of the anonymous "professional" economists who have alleged that the Open University's introductory social science course has a Marxist bias.



A sinister farce

Liberal economists, Marxist economists, SDP economists and, no doubt Alliance economists: and the fact that economists can be classified in these terms strongly suggests that economics has not the objectivity which is the principal norm of a science.

The charges made by the DES are based on an assessment by nameless and unnumbered "professional economists". Whether these are civil servants, government advisers, members of the City or representative academics is not known, though it is to be hoped that none of the latter have participated in such a shoddy exercise.

This report is the latest in a series of measures taken against the university's social science courses. The first salvo in the current round was launched in June 1982 with a claim by the DES of a significant increase in complaints about the alleged left-wing bias of the courses. Since some of the courses were not in the Social Science Faculty, the basis of the DES claim was at best obscure. Nonetheless, the ground had been laid for future manoeuvres, for while the DES steadfastly refused to identify the detail of such complaints it now had established a precedent for interference and provided itself with an apparent mandate to seek to substantiate its charges.

The next moves often had a comic opera quality: a DES official was despatched to Milton Keynes to obtain a copy of the introductory social science course reader, at the City Centre book store. Since the book was freely available in London the reason

for the trip is unclear, but the official caused some amusement by seeking to obtain a free copy as the representative of the Secretary of State. Subsequently, a telephone call from Sir Keith's office sought clarification on a reference: *The Main Enemy: A Material Analysis of Women's Oppression*, WRRP Publications. Perhaps the minister's advisers thought that these letters might bear some association with the Workers' Revolutionary Party rather than, in fact, to the book's

precipitated by this handful of letters, was well advanced.

What is remarkable is that in entering into an area where more cautious politicians have feared to tread the DES should not have exercised more care. Not only are the "professional economists" who claim to substantiate this chimera of public concern unwilling to be named but an analysis of their report indicates that they did not trouble to concern themselves with the wider course in which the economics block is located, or to establish the pedagogic intent of an interdisciplinary or interdisciplinary science course. Much of their criticism is apparently based on the incorrect assumption that they were evaluating an introductory economics course. More remarkably still, having secured an unidentified, decontextualised evaluation of one-eighth of the course the DES had now told the OU that its report had substantiated the charge that the course as a whole is unbalanced and that "complaints of bias made to the Department were neither trivial nor irresponsible".

The detail of the report is in some ways irrelevant, not least since academics in a free society need surely not respond to hooded accusers, but it is worth pointing out that this is an attack not only on the university's own academics but also upon distinguished academics elsewhere. The late Joan Robinson, an internationally renowned Keynesian economist, is taken to task for her critique of monetarism on one of the teaching cassettes. In this she observes that monetarism may have a particular appeal to the class interests of the rich in that it legit-

imates steps to enrich them further. Perhaps the DES would like the OU to instruct its outside contributors on the parameters of debate acceptable to the present Government.

In a characteristically sloppy way the report further suggests that Robinson's statement is a "typically Marxist sentiment" which attributes people's views to economic forces. Unfortunately for the report's anonymous authors this casts some substantial doubt on their ability to distinguish between Marxist and other critical views. Indeed it appears that any emphasis on the role of conflict in capitalist market economies, or on the issue of social class, invites the label "Marxist". Marxism has become an epithet to be applied to the views expressed in a very wide range of scholarship, views which the report's authors do not share.

In fact, the OU subjects all its courses to rigorous outside evaluation. The introductory social science course tutorials are largely offered by academics who are employed by other institutions of higher education and work part-time for the OU. Students attend summer schools where they are also taught by a range of academic staff from across the country. Their exam scripts are predominantly marked by non-Open University academics. The views expressed in the units, cassettes and television programmes constitute only part of the educational package, a package unique in its diversity of opinion and input, no less than in its availability for public scrutiny.

The DES report might simply be viewed as a regrettable ill-judged and badly conducted attempt to respond to public concern. The evidence suggests that such concern was in fact largely a political figment and that the delivery of the report on alleged bias, coincident with discussions about the level of Government funding, which threaten the future viability of the university, is not accidental.

Large numbers of people will recall the charge of Marxist bias, few will appreciate its vacuity. OU students will feel that their education has been devalued. Sir Keith may have succeeded in creating some public support for an institution which stands as a legacy of a social democratic tradition to which he is profoundly hostile. The difficulties already created by major funding cutbacks, including reduced access to television and the decline in the resource levels for new courses have further damaged the university's public profile.

Sir Keith has also given a hostage to fortune, for the desire to meddle in the content of education is not restricted to political extremists of the Right. If some future politician of the Left wishes to investigate the teaching of economics at Liverpool University Sir Keith will have already paved the way.

Dr Martin Loney is Senior Lecturer in Social Policy at the Open University.

Sarah Bayliss outlines some of the evidence presented to MPs considering provision for younger children

Age group equality urged

Education spending on primary age children should at least equal the sums spent per head on secondary pupils, MPs were told this week.

In evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts inquiry into primary education, leading members of the National Association for Primary Education spelled out the need for more resources for young children and the increasingly shaky dependence of schools on fund-raising.

Mr John Coe, Oxfordshire's senior adviser for primary education and chairman of NAPE, claimed that spending on primary pupils nationally represented 70 per cent of the total spent on secondary pupils, 50 per cent of spending on 16-19s, 30 per cent of spending on further education students and 15 per cent of spending on undergraduates.

NAPE wanted to see a move towards a "proper balance" in education expenditure; whether a child was 7 or 14 years old, it should get the same resources.

"Too often it is too late, the damage has been done, the tracks have been set by the age of 11, probably by seven and for many children by five," said Mr Coe.

Even in Oxfordshire, where Mr Clement Freud MP had said there was a "brilliant" chief education officer, Mr Coe would like to see a better balance of resources.

NAPE knew that some parents were now providing the "basic tools" of education while some areas were falling below a minimum level of provision. Many more books were needed. "Many, many schools are now raising as much money voluntarily as they are getting from their local authorities - that's not a sound way for us to finance our schools."

Mr John Nicol, NAPE's treasurer and a parent governor in Hampshire, said parents at his school had paid for redecoration, carpeting, but also for a new reading scheme.

Mr Michael Brogden, NAPE's secretary and warden of a teachers' centre in Berkshire, said there was a strong case for direct injections of cash from the Government for particular

areas or subjects. The Department of Industry's funding of computers had made an enormous difference to schools.

Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Hillsborough, Sheffield, said he believed that certain deprived areas should be given distinct financial advantages. "We would support positive discrimination," replied John Coe.

Asked about their support for small schools, John Coe said that research about the value of parental involve-



Lady Plowden: parental involvement necessary

ment in education had strengthened the case for retaining small schools. Such schools warranted strong support including in-service training for staff and visits from subject experts.

In an important contribution to the role of specialists, Mr Coe said NAPE believed that the class teacher should retain overall responsibility for his or her class, but that specialists had a "major role" to play.

In a written submission to the select committee, NAPE said in the course of their careers primary teachers should take responsibility for different subjects at different times. It also asserted that there should be a statutory requirement on all local authorities to provide a place for every four-year-old in a playgroup, nursery or primary school. Professional coordinators should be responsible for the under-fives in each area.

Ms Joan Lister, an advisory head in

Newcastle, assured MPs that both moves would enhance rather than diminish parental involvement in under-fives provision. NAPE would like to see more playgroups using classrooms in schools, not least because many playgroups were housed in poor accommodation.

Earlier, Lady Plowden, who chaired the influential Plowden committee of the late 1960s, emphasized the need for parental involvement in schools and preschool arrangements. She had always believed that parents' interest in education had the single largest effect on children's progress, but more recently she had discovered the confidence which parents themselves could gain.

She quoted research from Professor Barker at Bristol University, which said that financial support for young mothers' groups was likely to be more cost effective than remedial help for children with difficulties later on.

Lady Plowden, whose report in 1967 advocated a massive expansion of nursery education, confirmed for Sir William Van Straubenzee, Conservative MP for Wokingham and chairman of the committee, that she had changed her mind since then because of what she had observed in playgroups where mothers were directly involved in their children's development. Working class mothers, 26 per cent of whom suffered from depression, could have their lives transformed by contact with a playgroup. She therefore found it depressing that the Pre-School Playgroups' Association had had its grant frozen in the current year.

Asked whether the committee should give special attention to the PPA, Lady Plowden replied that it would be more useful to draw together as much research as there was on "intervention with parents". She named the Home Start scheme in Leicester, the Harrogate Reading Scheme, and Parent Support Units in Liverpool.

Asked by Mr Freud what the most cost-effective investment could be in pre-school provision, Lady Plowden replied that training for pre-school teachers and grants for parents' self-help schemes were her priorities.

NEWS

Looking for graduates' gratuities

Glossy brochures urging British graduates to give money to their old university could become as familiar here as in the United States if options set out by vice-chancellors this week are implemented.

A working party chaired by Dr John Burnett, principal of Edinburgh University and vice-chairman of the vice-chancellors' committee, has produced a report to consider ways of boosting university income from non-Government sources. It is estimated that some 270m, or 14 per cent of the universities' recurrent income, came from such sources in 1982-83.

The paper, which has been sent to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, says that if the estimated 1.5 million British graduates gave as generously to their former universities as their American counterparts give to theirs, university income could be boosted by some £40m a year.

Another more controversial source would be students themselves, the working party says. They could contribute more, either through loans repaid through a graduate income tax or through a flexible fee system under which fees would be set by individual universities.

University administrators produced a 90-page report on the same subject this week. They give a run-down of the possibilities for raising funds from alumni, schools to science parks.

Union hits at HMI on middle schools

by Richard Garner

A report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate on the country's middle schools is "not full enough, not good enough and not new enough" to be part of the current educational debate, says a pamphlet published by the National Union of Teachers today.

The NUT says the report - published last Christmas after lengthy delays - was a disappointment because it was out of date by the time it was released. The work in the schools had been completed three years before its publication.

The HMI survey had been widely publicized as hostile to or unenthusiastic about 9 to 13 middle schools, the union says, but claims that a close reading of it shows this is not the case. It adds that it is worried that many local education authorities have seized upon isolated comments from it to support the closure of middle schools at a time of economic constraints.

Plans to close three-year-old school

A purpose-built high school in Stafford completed only three years ago and described as unique and exceptionally well-equipped is being recommended for closure under a reorganization plan this week.

The NUT says: "The survey when closely studied makes no judgement about the overall advantages of three-tier or of two-tier school systems."

"Equally, the union believes that the details given in the survey do not prove, and were not intended to prove, the case either for retaining or for disbanding a three-tier system."

"The union is concerned that the survey is being used as an authoritative source in the current local education authority debates over the future of many middle schools. It is filled with comments that can, taken out of context, be used by those anxious to retain or those anxious to close middle schools."

9-13 Middle Schools is published by the National Union of Teachers and available from its headquarters at Hamilton House, Mableton Place, London WC1. Price 40p.

Parents overturn plan to sell playing fields

Campaigning parents in the London borough of Hillingdon have won a reprieve for 10 primary schools whose playing fields were due to be sold, Sarah Bayliss writes.

The campaign, which grew suddenly in the last weeks of term after the schools had been named, culminated in hundreds of parents swamping the public gallery, corridors and ante-rooms of the council chamber on two evenings last week.

Nineteen Conservatives - one-third of the ruling group - who had been inundated with petitions, voted with the Labour minority and two Liberals to refer the matter back to the policy and resources committee.

Hillingdon's plan to raise £6m through the sale of 10 acres or more was included in the council's annual budget passed in March. An ad hoc subcommittee was set up and many sites were inspected and measured. Government regulations defining the minimum areas of playing field provision were applied and last month 10 schools were named as having some land "surplus to educational requirements".

Outline planning permission to make the sites more attractive to builders had already been obtained for five schools.

Mrs Shirley Barnes, whose six-year-old Laurence attends Field End primary, said parents were "absolutely shocked and amazed" to learn on June 28 that more than half their site was to be put up for sale.

"We abhor all cuts in education but this cut would have been irreversible. Once land has gone and houses have been built, it's gone forever" she said. Mrs Barnes said parents had personally thanked those Conservatives who had voted in their favour. But at the same time they had written to the chief executive of Hillingdon claiming that the ad hoc subcommittee's procedures had been "biased, unfair and discriminatory".

They claim that councillors were impartial in defending only the schools in their wards and that on the issues of access and the value of land for rural studies, there were inconsistencies; in some cases these were quoted as reasons for relieving land whereas in others they were not.

Mrs Barnes said parents had also written to Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, about the inequities of the grant penalties system of which Hillingdon claims to be a victim, and to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, about the Education School Premises Regulations of 1981.

"These specify that a school with 50 to 149 children should have a minimum of 0.25 hectares, whereas a school with 150 to 249 pupils should have 0.5 hectares. Pupils aged eight and under are assumed to need only hard surface areas and are excluded from the playing fields calculations, presumably because it is assumed they do not play team games on grass."

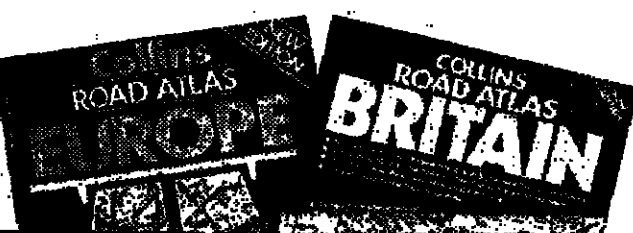
A school with a fluctuating roll, like Field End, and with over half its pupils aged under eight was disadvantaged by the regulations, Mrs Barnes said.

Mr Ian Cunningham, Labour's education spokesman, said the regulations had given serious cause for concern: two schools in high density housing areas, Brookside and Glebe School, would have been "savagely hit" by their application.

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Bexley heads give warning as dispute is declared

Post freeze threat to pupils

by Hilary Wilce

Pupils may be turned away from classes next autumn, if teachers are unavailable to take them, Bexley heads are warning parents.

The heads' warning comes in the wake of a decision by the Tory-controlled outer London borough to freeze all vacant posts pending the outcome of arbitration on teachers' pay.

The authority, whose education chairman, Mr Brian Sams, is known to have taken a hard line in Burnham negotiations, has told teachers that at least 18 posts will have to go for every percentage point awarded above the 4.5 per cent offer already made to teachers.

Originally the education committee decided frozen posts would be freed only under exceptional circumstances. However, a working party of members set up to consider individual posts has released 36 of the 52 posts put before it.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, described the move as a "vote-face", but said the situation was still "unsatisfactory".

The NAHT had declared a collective dispute with the authority, he said, but this had been rejected by the authority, which claimed it concerned a budgetary matter which was outside the responsibility of the education committee.

"We fundamentally disagree with the idea that a decision by the education committee cannot be the subject of a dispute," he said. The association was pursuing the matter, and advising heads to write to parents to warn them that if teachers are not in post at the beginning of the next school year, and if colleagues refuse to cover for them, then pupils could be excluded from classes.

Bexley's secondary heads have already written to councillors and parents protesting that the freeze on posts makes it impossible for them to plan next year's timetables.

The heads say that the authority has already saved £74,000 by non-payment of salaries during the teachers' strike action.

But Mr Sams challenged this figure. Only £30,000 had been saved, he said,

and this was a one-off saving and would not help to pay next year's salaries bill. The heads' representatives had known what would happen if a pay settlement exceeded the management side's offer, he said, yet they had supported the teachers. "They must now take their share of the responsibility".

Both primary and secondary schools are affected by the decision to freeze posts. A number of parents' associations have met to consider the possibility of legal action, if posts remain unfilled at the start of the next school year.

● Bexley council may ballot its teaching force over who should represent them on its education committee. The move comes after a row over representation as a result of which all the five recognized teachers' associations have withdrawn from the education committee.

The withdrawal is part of a protest over the fact that the council now chooses the education committee's teacher representatives from those nominated by the association.

UK women missing out on Euro training cash

The United Kingdom's dismal record in obtaining European funds earmarked for the training of women is highlighted in the 1983 report of the European Social Fund.

The failure of this country to get its share of women's training funds has been the subject of criticism in Britain and in Brussels. At least some of the blame has been laid at the door of government and local authorities for lack of commitment to positive action for women in the workplace.

The report shows that the UK received just 11.8 per cent of the women-only fund. This compares poorly with West Germany, which received 53 per cent, and France which received 19.7 per cent.

Commission officials say that the money countries receive relates clearly to the number of applications for funds in this area.

Lady Platt, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, speaking at Surrey University recently, said more effort should be made to channel this earmarked money into the UK. But Ms Maureen Dunn, coordinator of the East Leeds Women's Workshop,

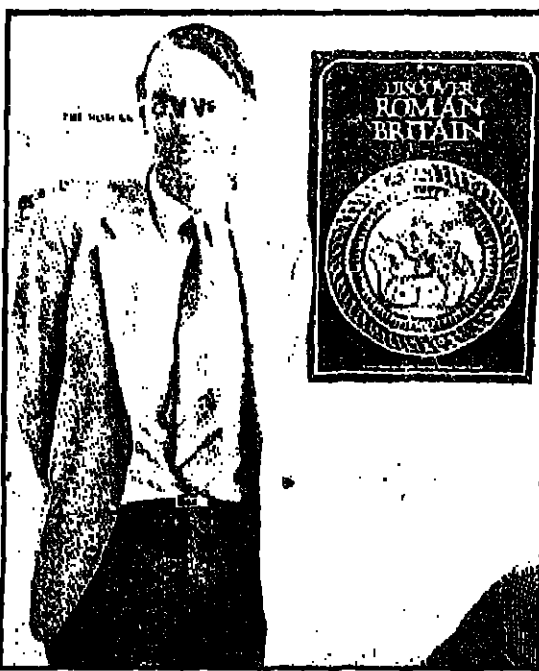
which has been receiving European Women's training funds for the past three years, said that universities and colleges appeared to find it easier to get money than Skillscentres which were trying to encourage women into non-traditional areas.

The main stumbling block for many groups trying to set up women's training projects was the reluctance of local authorities to put up the necessary matching funds before a grant application can be forwarded to Brussels.

A further complication was that the Department of Employment seemed reluctant to give local authorities the special designation needed under the Sex Discrimination Act to allow them to set up women-only training courses, she said. But local authorities, in turn, were unwilling to fund projects in the voluntary sector.

Under the old rules the European Social Fund had a special section earmarked for training funds for women over 25. However under new rules this year there is no separate women's section. Instead women will form a priority category throughout the fund.

Nick Wood visits an unlikely classical rebirth in the Midlands led by teacher Myles Walker (pictured right)



Latin verve...

Latin, once the corner stone of an English education, is on the way back.

But the setting for its mini renaissance is not the cloistered quiet of a public school. The classics have gained an unlikely toehold in the Labour borough of Sandwell, whose left-wing umbrella covers the West Midlands towns of Warley and West Bromwich.

For the past fortnight, about 300 14 and 15-year-olds from local comprehensives have attended a Latin summer school at Rowley Regis sixth-form college. All the costs are paid by the local authority.

Nor have they been taking it easy. The aim is to cover one-fifth of the 16-plus Latin grammar syllabus in a week which, for all the children, means a headlong dash through the pages of *Ecce Romani*, the colourful textbooks that make up the core of the course.

Only after the morning's 2½ hours of intensive study does the pace slacken as the children are introduced to wonders of ancient Roman and Greek civilization.

The man behind the venture is Mr Myles Walker, a Liverpoolian, who for the past 10 years has taught A level classics and ancient history at Rowley.

Since the course began in 1978, he has seen the numbers on it treble and

he now has a couple of his first crop of students among the 20 teachers who for a modest £25 have taken on an extra week's work. As he puts it: "The children just keep coming back."

And, as his remark implies, the summer school is a regular event. For the 14-year-olds, it is their first taste of Latin; but it is also something that can be taken right through to O level or CSE standard at 16.

Throughout the rest of the school year, Mr Walker, helped by Mr Luigi Lenardic, his assistant at Rowley, and Mr Edward Chittman of Wolverhampton Polytechnic, tour the borough's comprehensives squeezing in lessons before and after school and during the lunch hour to small but eager groups of youngsters.

Under this arrangement some 30 children took the 16-plus Latin with Classical Studies last year. It was not a vintage year, but 10 got O level passes and one pupil achieved a grade A. Nearly all the rest achieved graded results at CSE.

But why does he commit himself to a programme that works out to 35 hours teaching a week plus untold hours of travelling, preparation, administration and marking?

"I believe classics is a splendid form



A school adaptation of Plautus's play *The Swaggering Soldier*

of education, and with the innovations in Latin teaching it can be taught to a wide range of abilities. I see it as my business to offer it to youngsters and to give them an opportunity to get an O level in it.

"But because of the way we have to rush through the course it does require exceptionally hard work from the children."

Mr Walker advances two prime

educational justifications to teaching Latin - it strengthens children's grasp of English by building up their "amazingly weak" vocabularies, and it "opens their eyes" to the classical traditions and classical literature.

"Almost the first Latin words children encounter they can relate to English words. The Latin words make sense of English words. Take the word 'ramification' if you know that *ramus* is

a branch you can see 'ramifications' as all the branches of a tree spreading from the trunk."

He then puts theory into practice by taking a group of 10 first-formers through a piece of Latin prose describing the adventures of a Roman family. Along the way, they learn the Latin origins of English words such as "unruly", "multitude" and "egocentric".

They work hard, happily and largely in silence as they puzzle over a set of grammatical exercises. Were it not for the jeans, sweatshirts, necklaces and earrings, you could be back in a grammar school classroom in the 1950s.

But what do the pupils think of the school? Donnell and Sharon, two 14-year-olds from Heathfield comprehensive, rated at average linguistic ability, said they had enjoyed themselves and hoped to take the subject through to O levels and CSE.

"We never thought we'd be reading Latin out of a book after just a week. I thought it would be ever so hard but

'Latin's always had an aura about it. Ever since the first year I wanted to do it. I took French but didn't like it - it was too ordinary'

I've been amazed that once you get the hang of it it's easy," Donnell said.

Other pupils were more critical. One said: "I have enjoyed most of it, but the afternoons were boring. The slide show and film were ancient and useless. Another said: "I came to learn Latin, not how Romans lived."

Many said how much they liked the informal atmosphere of the summer school. "You were treated as adults instead of school children. You didn't get told off much but then no one did anything wrong."

But perhaps the most revealing comment came from one of the summer school's old boys - Nicholas Turton, who has just taken the Latin 16-plus and who has come back to begin a course in Greek.

For Nicholas, who will be taking sciences at A level, the school has unlocked the low door in the garden wall - to paraphrase Evelyn Waugh.

"Latin's always had an aura about it. Ever since I was a first year I wanted to do it. I took French but I didn't like it. French is too ordinary."

"It's on TV or you go to France and they are all speaking French and it is really plain."

"There is something special about Latin, perhaps because it is a dead language and a relic of a world that doesn't exist any more. Once the language is removed from schools, Rome won't exist any more."

Exam board applauds the rapid start for 16-plus

by Biddy Passmore

One of the country's largest GCE boards has expressed relief that the new 16-plus exam can get under way before grade-related criteria and the proposed "distinction certificate" are fully introduced.

In a letter to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, the Manchester-based Joint Matriculation Board offers its full support for the introduction of the General Certificate of Secondary Education.

But it says the proposed starting date of 1988 will place "very heavy demands" on all involved.

"The board is therefore glad to note that this rapid implementation is not dependent upon the two most innovative features, the grade-related criteria and the proposed 'distinction certificate', being in full operation from the beginning," Mr Colin Vickerman, the JMB's secretary, said.

"The implications of the use of grade-related criteria, both in operational and educational terms, are very far-reaching as you obviously appreciate and proper trials and evaluation are essential to success." The board will be glad to play its part in this development work, his letter says. But a clear indication was given by

Sir Wilfred Cockcroft, chairman of the Secondary Examination Council, that grade-related criteria would be based on the present exam system, at least to start with.

He said that in English and other subjects the council would have to begin defining the GCE Foundation grade F (roughly the borderline of CSE grades 4 and 5) by asking the CSE boards what candidates at the sixtieth percentile of the ability range could be expected to achieve.

He admitted that this might sound as if the new exam, which had been presented as criterion-referenced - marks based on absolute standards - would in fact be norm-referenced (ie based on relative standards). "But," he remarked philosophically, "you have to start somewhere."

After the council's working parties had looked at what children at the sixtieth percentile could achieve, Sir Wilfred said they might then modify it in order to devise a "hurdle" which candidates could achieve. He conceded this might look very unimpressive as a criterion.

In its letter to Sir Keith, the JMB stresses the need for the new exam to make provision for people over 16 who

currently use O levels as a general educational qualification, often as the first step towards further qualifications. This need is currently met by the specially tailored "Alternative Ordinary" (OA) category, it says, and hopes that a similar arrangement will be found urgently for the new exam.

● The letter-based grading scale proposed for the 16-plus could be misunderstood, the Joint Council of Exam Boards has told Sir Keith.

Using the letters A to G rather than the originally proposed scale 1 to 7 could cause confusion, particularly because of the similarity to A level grades, the council says. "In the General Certificate of Secondary Education F will be a passing grade," it points out. "At A level it indicates 'pluses'."

That is one of four reservations the joint council enters about the new exam, to which it gives a generally warm welcome.

Other points of concern are the target date of 1988, which it says will put heavy pressure on the examining groups, the need for the full support of local education authorities, and the new "distinction certificate".

'Keep special school qualifications' plea

by Diane Spencer

The Government would be "callous and barbaric" to accept a proposal that teachers in special schools for the blind and deaf no longer need extra qualifications, a conference was told.

Mr Ian Bruce, director of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, said it would be "retrograde and mean-spirited" to remove the present mandatory requirement for extra qualifications for teachers of the blind and deaf.

"It flies in the face of the Vernon and Warnock reports and decades of government policy."

But, he added, some of the other recommendations given to Sir Keith Joseph the Education Secretary, by his advisory committee on teacher training

(ACSET) were very good. He approved of the idea of a special educational needs course in basic teacher training, the increase in in-service and the request for more money to fund it.

Earlier, the 200 delegates at the annual conference of the Association for the Education and Welfare of the Visually Handicapped heard Sir Keith promise to listen to criticisms of the reorganization plans for special schools for blind children published earlier this month.

Under a rationalization programme 13 schools will close and 14 remain open. He hinted that he might be prepared to extend the September 30 deadline for consultation.

New post announced

Michael Sterne, Manchester's assistant education officer for continuing education, has been seconded for two years to the post of principal for community education in the city's northern area based on the Abraham Moss School. He

takes up his new appointment on September 1, writes Frank Pedley. Mr Sterne, who has been in educational administration for 20 years, has worked in Northumberland, the West Riding and Doncaster.

How seven schools found ways of helping their communities and helped themselves to £7,000

Congratulations to seven of Britain's most enterprising schools.

They were the best of over 600 who took part in NatWest's Project Respond Scheme.

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Beaver Hill School (Sheffield); Filton High School (Bristol); Glyn Derw High School (Cardiff); Ludlow College (Ludlow, Shropshire); Shelley High School (Huddersfield); Soudes Place School (Dorking Surrey); and Whitmore High School (Harrow, Middlesex).

In all, the schools around the country who entered this year's Project Respond shared over £60,000.

Next year, your school could win a top award. So look out for details of NatWest's Project Respond Scheme, or write to Barry Collins, Manager, Sponsorship and Community Affairs, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP for further information.

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CLEA 84

Conference reports from Newcastle by Mike Durham

Unity against training White Paper maintained

Local education authorities reaffirmed their united opposition to the Government's White Paper *Training for Jobs*, at the conference of the Council of Local Education Authorities, which is the I.e.s.s. collective voice.

The White Paper was condemned as "an unwarranted and misconceived attack of local authorities and their colleges" which would be both unnecessary and costly.

The I.e.s.s. maintained their united front against the Government. A potentially damaging split along party political lines was avoided when a string of resolutions attacking Government intentions were rejected.

Earlier a routine CLEA meeting at the start of the conference had passed a resolution restating the "unanimous opposition" to the measure of both Association of Metropolitan Authorities and Association of County Councils members.

It had been feared that because of talks between the ACC and the Manpower Services Commission, the local authorities stance against *Training for Jobs* might be put at risk.

Mr John Pearman, deputy chairman of the AMA education committee, told the conference that combined opposition to the White Paper was essential.

The conference called on the Burnham pay negotiating committees to work for compatibility of salaries for teachers and lecturers in 16 to 19 further education.

Mr Geoff Driver, Leeds education chairman, said the Government's post-16 education provision was not meeting

Pay parity appeal

short-term needs as a result of unemployment, and would not meet long-term demands.

The need for a tertiary system was

becoming urgent. "Teachers and lecturers must have equality of esteem as equal partners in the system."

The principle should be built in to the

current talks on restructuring of teachers' pay and conditions, the motion added.

The conference also gave unanimous support to the work of the structure working party on teachers' pay and conditions "in the long term interest of the education service".

In brief ...

More cash sought for adult education

The conference called on the Government to make resources available for a fully comprehensive adult education service. Mr Robert Aitken, Coventry's director of education, said the present proliferation of "pump-priming" projects financed by the DES and MSC was no substitute for properly financed and locally determined provision.

Cut in OU spending attacked

Reduction in Government spending on Open University courses, leading to heavy fee rises and cuts in classes, was condemned. Delegates called on the Government to restore OU funding to its original levels.

Break-in at London HQ

CLEA administrator, Mr Ivor Widdison, arrived back at his London office on Monday to find that it had been broken into. It seems the intruders were looking for confidential personal files although nothing was stolen. Two men were this week helping police with their enquiries.

Take more interest in the homework - Hargreaves

Parents should be encouraged to take more interest in their children's homework, Dr David Hargreaves, ILEA Chief Inspector, told the conference. He said that schools should make it clear that failing to do homework in secondary school could be the equivalent of lacking a whole year's schooling.

Most parents would be horrified to realise this, even though they often connived in their children's failure to do homework. But it was time to take parents seriously.

"Parents don't understand the importance of homework. They see their kids doing homework that is unimaginative, boring and time consuming."

"If only we could involve more parents earlier - say 20 parents in a tutor group parents' association going up through the school - then we could do a lot more for the children."

Dr Hargreaves gave his views on parent-teacher relationships after giving a speech to the conference on ways of improving the quality of secondary schools.

He said I.e.s.s. had only recently concerned themselves with the curriculum since pressure from central government had forced them to take the area seriously.

Dr Hargreaves, who chaired the committee on improving secondary schools teaching in inner London which produced the Hargreaves Report, urged more I.e.s.s. to set up their own independent committees of inquiry.

He outlined six criteria for them:

- Committee members should be professional educationalists, not politicians;
- Committees should be small and manageable, headed by an independent chairman, and include some lay outsiders;
- They should work to a tight schedule not above a year;
- Committee members should make frequent visits to institutions so as to remain in touch with education "at the grassroots";
- Recommendations should relate to the short term - say, 5 to 7 years ahead - rather than to the long term;
- Any committee should devote itself to considering ways of improving parent-teacher relations; better curriculum assessment; improved teacher quality; and primary to secondary transfer arrangements.

The result should be an exercise which established a working philosophy for secondary education in any area, as well as raising the general standard of debate.

Dr Hargreaves said the Government's Green Paper on parental involvement was "irrelevant to the education service, including I.e.s.s., and it was advanced to different degrees along different paths."

On teacher assessment, Sir Keith said his programme for raising standards in schools called for a "substantial professional development among teachers." But he denied that he wanted to sack teachers.

He concluded: "The press will say - yet again - that I want to sack teachers. I do not. I want to improve teaching and that must mean helping every teacher to teach more effectively."

"But I do not close my eyes to the fact that there are some who are or have become individually weak in professional terms or otherwise unsuitable for teaching. They must not be allowed to remain in our schools."

Dr Hargreaves told *The TES* this week that he had been hailed as the conference as the former chairman of the committee, and not in his ILEA role.

Pictures: Doug Hall

CLEA 84

Conference reports from Newcastle by Mike Durham



Read all about it... a delegate keeps up to date with *The TES*.

Call for building funds

The conference strongly urged the Education Secretary to increase resources for building new schools.

Calling for greater capital building allocations, Mr Roy Jewell, Mid-Glamorgan education vice-chairman, said no longer taught in "buildings first erected in the reigns of Queen Victoria and Edward VII".

He said a third of Mid-Glamorgan schools were built before 1903 and half before 1918. But with present resources the county could build only two new primary schools a year.

Mrs Josie Farrington, Lancashire education chairman, said schools were in a deplorable state. Without funds, closures and reorganizations could not take place. "It will continue to be impossible to plan sensibly for the future."

Only one authority spoke up in favour of maintaining old school buildings.

Mr Vincent Hudson, Kent education vice-chairman, said one county school built in 1647 was still in use. This was the result of "good husbandry".

Sir Keith accused of breaking trust

Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, was accused of "betraying" local education authorities despite promises of partnership made a year ago.

Relations between local and central government, the conference heard, were at their lowest ebb for almost as long as anyone could remember.

The conference resolved to seek an urgent meeting with Sir Keith to protest at the Government's "betrayal of trust" over its promised partnership in running the education service.

Mr John Pearman, the education chairman of Wakefield, who is also deputy chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities education committee, said the "constitutional crisis" over who runs the education service had worsened in the last year.

A year ago Sir Keith had promised a new partnership. "But at the very time he was preaching partnership, he was instructing his civil servants to write the White Paper *Training for Jobs*."

This had sent reverberations across the education service from which it might never recover. He added that TVEI, Educational Support grants, Youth Training Schemes, the Green Paper on governing bodies, rate-capping and spending cuts had all added to the "betrayal".

Despite the Government's promises, Mr Pearman said, "we have seen more contractions in the education service over the last 12 months than any of us can remember."

Mrs Josie Farrington, Lancashire education chairman, said policy decisions were being made by Sir Keith out of "political prejudice" or because he thought he knew more than I.e.s.s. about the service.

But I.e.s.s. were still left with the responsibility to implement his decisions.

"We have got to condemn what has been happening in the strongest possible terms. We must stand up and be counted."

Earlier, Mr Philip Merridale, Conservative education chairman of Hampshire, urged moderation in the I.e.s.s. approach to the Government.

Mr Merridale said that Sir Keith's record was disappointing, and constructive cooperation between local and central Government "could not be said to be made easier" by recent developments.

He went on: "There is a real danger that we may drift into a situation where Government intervention might make it virtually impossible to conduct a responsible and locally accountable education service."

But Mr Merridale said the authorities could make their view "abundantly clear" to Sir Keith without accusing him of betrayal. He suggested a meeting to "review the relationship" between local and national government.

"I'm a pragmatist. If we talk to the Government and bring to their attention our profound disquiet, we may get somewhere," he said.

Mr Jeff White, Coventry education vice-chairman, said: "If we are soft on the Government, will they do the same to the education service as they are doing to the Metropolitan Authorities?"

"We must take the gloves off. If we don't the Government will only bring in more legislation."

Mr Maurice Barton, Isle of Wight policy chairman, accused the Government of being "a Government of ideologues intent on wrecking the education service."

Plea for pay rise aid

Education authorities called on the Government to help meet any extra cost to I.e.s.s. of the teachers pay award which may result from arbitration.

In a motion which attracted the highest vote the conference called on Sir Keith Joseph to fund local authorities adequately to cover the cost.

Proposing, Mr Tom Egan, Manchester education committee member said the HMI reports on education provision painted a grim picture.

"Things are very serious and they are not going to be solved by the Secretary of State thinking he can accommodate the demand by telling I.e.s.s. to sack teachers or make savings elsewhere," he said.

But some Conservative I.e.s.s. opposed making the award. Mr Paul Clarke, Kingston's education chairman, said people were too ready to go on strike "at the drop of a hat" and Mrs

Mavis Peart of Sutton said teachers could have accepted 4.5 per cent.

The management's handling of the pay negotiations and the Burnham pay negotiating structure both came under severe criticism.

The conference agreed to set up its own review of the Burnham structure and the rules of reference to arbitration to make a case for reform to the education secretary in due course.

Mr Steve Byers, North Tyneside education chairman, said: "The present system hinders rather than helps the progress of negotiation." He said this year's pay round had been worsened by "provocative, negative and deeply insulting statements," by Sir Keith.

A Sheffield motion condemning the management side for not conceding arbitration at an earlier stage was carried.

Rethink on parental involvement urged

The Green Paper *Parental Influence at School* was unanimously condemned as an erosion of I.e.s.s. rights and responsibilities and based on unproven assumptions.

When local authority leaders discuss CLEA resolutions with the Secretary of State they will urge him to reconsider his proposals for greater parental involvement in school governing bodies.

Mrs Mavis Peart, education chairman of Conservative-controlled Sitton, drew applause when she said the Education Secretary should be told to throw the Green Paper in the nearest wastepaper bin.

Mrs Ruth Gee, Inner London Education Authority deputy leader, said it

Sir Keith Joseph announces autumn initiatives

National curriculum step nearer

Progress towards a national curriculum will take a major step forward in the autumn with a series of reports and discussion documents, Sir Keith Joseph told the conference.

The Education Secretary announced that a "massive amount of information" would come out of the DES about the curriculum in the next few months.

It would include "our own tentative proposals on what a national curriculum might be like" for discussion by all the partners in the education service.

Among the forthcoming papers are HMI discussion papers on the primary curriculum and the 11 to 16 curriculum. An HMI paper on the objectives of English teaching is to be published in the autumn.

A statement on objectives in maths teaching will be issued before the end of the year. Sir Keith said, and objectives for science and foreign language teaching would be issued in due course after consultations.

Sir Keith also hoped to publish a discussion paper on the 5 to 16 curriculum. HMI reports on the best work done in primary schools, and the replies from I.e.s.s. to the Department's circular 8/83 on curricular objectives.

"The intention is to finish up with a series of policy statements broadly covering the whole curriculum, including those elements which run right through it, and prepared after full consideration within and outside the education service."

But Sir Keith said the exercise was not intended to lead to a national syllabus. "The construction of syllabuses is a professional matter, to be left to those competent to undertake it. By the same token, it falls to teachers to translate syllabuses into schemes of work and programmes to suit the needs of individual pupils."

"What the exercise should lead to is a framework within which the professional activities of teachers, including their choice of teaching approaches and teaching methods, can be worked out and then evaluated within the school."

Sir Keith compared the construction of a framework to the construction of a road. "The road is the framework, the car is the teacher, the passengers are the pupils. The road is the framework, the car is the teacher, the passengers are the pupils. The road is the framework, the car is the teacher, the passengers are the pupils."



Sir Keith... flow of papers and discussion documents

of national curricular objectives with that of building a motorway interchange, with four roads weaving in and out.

The four roads were: to establish the objectives of learning at school; to establish the objectives of the main elements of the curriculum; to agree on the 5-16 curriculum; and to establish attainment targets at 11 and 16.

While the four paths were being made the structure would be incomplete and difficult to visualize as a "complex and harmonious whole" it would eventually become.

Sir Keith said that although there was controversy over the content and level there were four areas of common ground.

Education, he said, should go beyond traditional school subjects to personal and social values. Skills, whether intellectual or practical, should be based on learned facts. Teaching should be organized by subject although in some cases subject

boundaries might be imprecise. Teachers in specialist subjects needed relevant specialist qualifications and experience.

Work on the various roads to a common curriculum should be a joint effort by all the partners in the education service, including I.e.s.s., and it was advanced to different degrees along different paths.

On teacher assessment, Sir Keith said his programme for raising standards in schools called for a "substantial professional development among teachers." But he denied that he wanted to sack teachers.

He concluded: "The press will say - yet again - that I want to sack teachers. I do not. I want to improve teaching and that must mean helping every teacher to teach more effectively."

"But I do not close my eyes to the fact that there are some who are or have become individually weak in professional terms or otherwise unsuitable for teaching. They must not be allowed to remain in our schools."

Far from CLEA

David Lister takes a sideways look at the Newcastle debates

splendid civic reception on the first evening Left and Right danced the Gay Gordons together and clapped along to a delightful rendition of local traditional songs.

Fortunately, the Geordie dialect was utterly incomprehensible to the London Left who might otherwise have been less than happy if they had realized the words they were cheering were: "Is she fit to be a wife" and "I'll take any girl in a storm."

But by next morning such unity as there had been was looking decidedly fragile. Conservative leader Philip Merridale was poignantly sitting in a row by himself - a situation explained by the fact that he was about to defend his handling of the teacher pay negotiations.

He also proposed a rather half-hearted condemnation of the deterioration in central and local government cooperation.

The counties' Labour spokeswoman, Josie Farrington, said that listening to Mr Merridale reminded her

of the song *Windmills of Your Mind*. This was an allusion nobody understood to a song that nobody should be reminded of, most of us having spent years trying to forget it.

Cambridgeshire's Conservative council leader succeeded in reminding people of the song *We don't need no education* when she made a comparison between Somerset and Sheffield in a vain attempt to show that the latter spent too much. Sheffield's Mike Bower pointed out rather caustically that Somerset had, in fact, been castigated by HM Inspectorate for providing a less than satisfactory service.

Bob Crossman of the ILEA went further saying Sir Blatch should read the 1944 Education Act, and promising her several times that she would be unable to sleep at night once she had.

Here he was probably wrong, as reading the 1944 Act is a good way as any of getting to sleep.

Fortunately, help was at hand to paper over the growing cracks in inter-party unity. Conference was due

to debate the Government Green Paper on *Parental Influence at School* which proposes dramatically increasing numbers of parent governors.

While opposition to Sir Keith stuck in the throats of some I.e.s.s. opposition to increasing the representation of parents came rather more easily. The motion to oppose the Green Paper was passed unanimously with men and women who had devoted their lives to making political judgments and drawing up manifestos holding up the horrendous spectre of parents making political judgments and drawing up manifestos.

On Friday the climax came - the debate on *Training for Jobs*. For some authorities the tension was too much. They left, presumably because they had trains to catch, and not as some cynics suggested because they did not wish DES officials to see them voting against the White Paper. In the event such a fear proved groundless as no vote was taken although the feeling of

Spending targets and penalties attacked

Government policy on spending targets and rate-capping were condemned as an attack of I.e.s.s. ability to provide a sound education service and an affront to local democracy.

In a series of motions on local government spending powers, the conference expressed "grave concern" at the Government's system of targets and penalties. It agreed that the system weakened I.e.s.s. ability to provide "even an adequate standard of service" to young people.

Rate-capping would damage the relationship between central and local government and undermine public faith in democracy. Local authorities would no longer be able to fulfill their statutory obligations.

Mr Roy Jewell, mid-Glamorgan vice chairman of education, said his was a socially deprived area which should be spending more on education. Instead it was spending less. "For the children, it's only one chance."

Mr Mike Bower, Sheffield education chairman, claimed the scale of opposition to Government policy was unprecedented. But, he said, "People will be driven to reject our system of representative democracy if it is scorned in the way the Government itself is doing."

Mrs Josie Farrington, leader of the Labour group on the Conservative-dominated Association of County Councils education committee, and chairman of Lancashire, said targets were "artificial, phony and totally unrelated to the responsibilities and duties that local authorities have."

She alleged that the country could afford to spend more on education - "with one exception. It must not be provided publicly. If the people of Lancashire get together in small groups, build a new school themselves, enrich it from their own resources, then that's OK."

"It's only when the same thing is done with public money that it's wrong. It amounts to the same thing. It doesn't cost more, but it's wrong because it's public money."

Mr Peter Smith, Hounslow's education vice chairman, said that far from being lavish overspenders, local authorities were careful with their money - "and that can't always be said for central Government and its quangos, like the MSC."

Support for the Government's policy came from a handful of Conservative authorities. Mr Ronald Barden, Redbridge education vice chairman, said control of public expenditure was done for "sound financial reasons." It was the Government's duty, responsibility, and right.

Mrs Emily Blatch, leader of Cambridgeshire, claimed responsible authorities were suffering because of the inefficiency and political attitude of others. "We have paid the price for

hostility from Labour and Tories was unmistakable.

How then would Sir Keith fare, facing such an unfriendly audience? Winning over hostile delegates is no easy task. The most successful exposure of the art must be Mrs Farrington. She was the ACC representative at the NUT conference in Easter right in the middle of pay negotiations, a somewhat schizophrenic position for a Labour stalwart. But she won over the teachers with her first three words: "Sisters and Brothers". A true touch of class.

The chances of Sir Keith beginning his speech in similar style was, however, remote. In the event he need not have worried too much.

Just before his arrival, the conference had been treated to a recital of his virtues by a confessed admirer, Councilor Brian Sans from Bexley. When he told delegates that Sir Keith was a truly radical Education Secretary there was a shaking of heads in disbelief.

Sir Keith had had the guts to launch numerous radical initiatives - yet more shaking of heads. He would leave his mark on the education service.

Suddenly there was frantic and universal nodding in agreement. With this prophecy not one person dissented.

Bert Lodge explains why the newly-published HMI reports on teacher training should be seen as the latest in a long line of measures to improve its quality.

Still searching for the perfect formula

The first two inspectors' reports that anybody can remember on teacher training institutions have slid out unobtrusively.

Chelmer (see below) and Kingston Polytechnic (June 29) had little to be ashamed of. We can be sure it was planned that way. The stark fact that inspectors had started making systematic visits to teacher training institutions was not a surprise. But before the end of next month we shall know what was found at Breton Hall, Rolle, Humberside and Midsex Polytechnic. One at least is expected to make the education world realize the inspectors have got their sleeves rolled up.

One pair of hands will be waiting with particular interest for a copy of those reports and all that follow. Dr William Taylor, former director of London University Institute of Education and now principal of the university, is to chair the newly-established Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Within the next four years it has to scrutinize every one of the 110 or so courses currently offered in England and Wales. And Circular 384, issued in April, is unequivocal. The findings of HMI visits have to be considered "in all cases."

When the draft circular was issued last December the talk was of the council going into action in April but the membership has still not been announced although a secretariat has been established on the eleventh floor at Elizabeth House.

It seems Sir Keith Joseph may have slightly overestimated the importance of his council and started his invitations at too high a level. Could the Master of an Oxford College be expected to devote four or five days a month to such a diversion? Hopes are now pinned on favourable replies from merchant bankers, more prestigious these days in the Minister's view as lay

members of committees than the old reliable captains of industry.

Sporadic gestures to improve the quality of teacher education have occurred from time to time in the last 20 years. The two-year certificate course was lengthened to three; the BEd, the first professional degree, was introduced in the late 1960s; in 1970 unqualified teachers were dismissed from their jobs (without anybody bothering to find out how many personal tragedies that amounted to); pilot induction schemes were introduced in Northumberland and Merseyside; by 1974, graduates - who once upon a time rarely bothered with training - had to have passed the postgraduate certificate course before they could teach, except for maths and science specialists. And in 1981 O levels in maths and English were made compulsory admission requirements for teacher training. At last it has become virtually an all-graduate entry.

But the competitive element has been slow in coming. Years of teacher shortage forced admission tutors not to select but to accept. And teachers could only be sacked if they were guilty of misconduct. But in the last three years things have changed radically. At first the talk was of teachers



Pauline Perry



possibly not up to the mark. Now it's courses.

The appointment of Sir Keith in 1981 coincided with another appointment at Elizabeth House, that of Mrs Pauline Perry, a youthful, energetic mother of four, as Chief Inspector for Teacher Training.

The new brooms fairly swept in. Documents began to tumble out of the DES, the hand of the Inspectorate recognizable in all of them, and with one thing in common. All hinted at a new rigour. By June, 1982, a consultative paper, "Qualified teacher status", baldly declared that primary schools needed more graduates but in degrees relevant to what juniors were taught. And to ensure this the Secretary of State might need to lay the law down on admission requirements, and subject content.

In December that year Mrs Perry told a conference of teacher trainers that a reform of the professional committees, responsible for courses at local level, was needed.

The intention to double the primary PGCE intake by 1985, announced a few months earlier, plus the stricter regulation of courses, strengthened the case for all teacher training institutions to be visited by inspectors. But the desirability of this was made to look like an urgency of October, 1982 when the new teacher in school claimed to have found probationers who should never have been accepted for training in the first place. One in four of those visited in 300 schools were not good enough to be in the classroom, it suggested.

The stage was set for the publication five months later, in March, 1983 of the White Paper, *Teaching quality*, with its authoritative stamp: there would be criteria for teacher training courses to meet and a body to judge

whether they did. The Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers had meanwhile helpfully "advised" that the several professional committees referred to by Mrs Perry should be replaced by a single, national body. CATE now had a clear run in.

But there was a difficulty about looking critically at teacher training courses. While public sector colleges saw inspection as part of the system they were in - though they experienced little of it - the universities did not. "You'll never get in there," was how it was paraphrased to one Inspector. Custom decreed that HMI inspectors came into university departments only when they were invited and that not often. Initial approaches caused some alarm, particularly among members of the Universities Council for the Education of Teachers.

What was unthinkable to them was the idea of somebody standing over a university lecturer, watching him perform. A push to establish this right was made as far back as 1947 when the status of London University's Institute of Education was being established. If it meant inspectors could walk in and watch staff teach this was a gross trespass on academic freedom, the university said, and it did not want the institute at all on those terms.

The (then) Ministry of Education compromised, the university senate agreed that an Inspector could by agreement attend a class "for the purpose of elucidating any points that may have arisen in the course of his consultations with the university authorities but not for the purpose of reporting on the work of an individual teacher of the university" (our italics). This agreement was reaffirmed in 1960, in what has since been known as the Concordat, between heads of university departments of education and

the Ministry. But it still left inspectors hanging round the door, dependent upon the grace and favour of the department.

Then help came from another quarter. Informal approaches to a few vice-chancellors early in 1982 revealed an unexpected support for not merely allowing the inspectors in but positively welcoming them. By June that year the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals were recommending that HMI be given the duty of appointing initial training courses and that the existing informal relations between the Inspectorate and university departments should not only be maintained but strengthened.

"Within six months of going to the VCs we were in," a senior Inspector said jubilantly. They were helped too by some schools of education nearly pleading for an inspection, so confident were they of the quality of their work. Nevertheless, one great difference remains: reports on university departments will not be published. It was as much as some vice-chancellors could accept that a written report be sent back to the head of the department. Perhaps the right to keep one important curtain closed is why the university departments are reported to be far less nervous about the arrival of the inspectors than are the colleges.

All have some misgivings on the nature of the criteria by which they are to be judged. For instance, evidence of "recent successful teaching experience" with the age range to which their courses are directed. The circular suggests that "if some members of staff cannot satisfy this requirement the employing institution should provide them with opportunities to demonstrate their teaching effectiveness in schools, for example, by means of secondments to schools or schemes for school-teacher exchanges".

A fine ideal. But what a challenge for the administrators of the respective colleges and schools, bearing in mind that research directed by Professor Gerald Bernbaum, of Leicester University, into the staffing of university PGCE courses showed that about seven out of ten lecturers had not taught in a classroom since before 1970.

At the summer conference a fortnight ago of the Society of Education Officers, Miss Alison Shrubsole, principal of Homerton College, Cambridge, and one of the country's most experienced teacher trainers, said the idea of tutor-teaching exchange was admirable - but too simplistic. A lecturer could not just walk into a class and take over, any more than a primary school teacher could step into adult education.

The IT-INSET approach, pioneered by the Open University and now being promoted by Dr Phil Ashton, of Leicester University (where student teachers, their tutors and class teachers all work together with the same class of children) suggests itself as one solution. Another is more limited tenure contracts among teacher trainers. That one will appeal to Sir Keith.

SCHOOL TO WORK

New monitor scheme: MSC sends in the clerks

Fifteen hundred civil servants are about to become the new inspectorate for the Youth Training Scheme. They will be given the key role in an ambitious new monitoring scheme which the Manpower Services Commission plans to introduce this autumn.

At stake is the whole future of the YTS, which Mr David Young, the Commission's chairman, has said will depend on learning how to improve its quality.

The 1,500 civil servants, all junior staff in MSC area offices, will assess the quality of all YTS schemes and monitor them regularly.

Until now most regular monitoring carried out by area offices has been aimed at ensuring that employers and other people running YTS projects stick to the financial and administrative rules.

But during the past year the MSC has built up small teams of programme assessors in each area, who are working under the guidance of training experts headed by Dr George Tolley, the former polytechnic director who heads the Commission's new quality control branch.

It is these programme assessors, about 20 of them in each area office, who will be used to carry out the monitoring. They will be expected to

undertake an in-depth quality "audit" of each scheme initially, and work out with the people running it what needs to be improved. After this they will carry out three-monthly assessments.

The teams of assessors will be armed with details of the minimum criteria which the MSC has set for the scheme, and with written guidance on monitoring methods which the MSC will issue to them next month.

They will also be able to refer to a programme assessors' handbook. Members of the Youth Training Board have welcomed the plan in



Dr George Tolley

principle. But some are finding it difficult to hide their doubts about the ability of the area teams to tackle the task without intensive training and more staff.

They point out that most of the assessors are clerks with little or no experience of training or education, and that they will have up to 500 or 600 training places each to monitor.

And some of Dr Tolley's own colleagues agree with the YTS members that it will be a formidable task to equip all 1,500 to make the complex professional judgments involved in assessing the instructional quality of the schemes, particularly since the Commission has agreed that more attention needs to be paid to the opportunities for the personal development of trainees that the YTS provides.

The teams will be directed to concentrate initially on trying to get sponsors and managing agents to put right weaknesses of the kind which have led to widespread complaints about the YTS this year.

But by 1985-86 the Commission's officials hope that their routine monitoring will be part of a much more sophisticated system which will evaluate the effectiveness of schemes by establishing what samples of trainees have learned from them.

Infotech plea for graduates

by Biddy Passmore

More graduates are needed now to enable Britain to keep up in the information technology race - but industry itself will have to pay for them.

This is the message of the first report from the Government's committee of inquiry into skills shortages in information technology, chaired by Mr John Butcher, trade and industry junior minister.

It proposes a new partnership package between education and industry under which industry would offer both staff and equipment to schools, universities and polytechnics to help the education service respond more quickly to industrial change.

The report, published yesterday, says the committee of top industrialists and higher education representatives has no doubt there is already a clear shortfall of graduates with the required skills and that it will get worse - although it cannot give precise figures.

UK industry is growing at only 4 per cent, compared with a world average rate of 15 per cent, the committee points out. Shortage of manpower means this country is losing out. It cites evidence that vacancies are shooting up and quotes the Alvey Directorate's estimate that 5,000 additional gradu-



John Butcher

ates - mainly in electronic engineering and computer science - will be required by 1987-88.

Action is needed now to increase the number of first degree places in the right disciplines and the number of IT conversion courses for graduates and to expand the role of upgrading and updating courses, the report says.

But industry will have to play a major role in providing staff, equipment and accommodation in these very expensive areas because the education service has neither the money nor the resources to respond in time. (The Treasury is said to have refused to fund a large-scale scheme for boosting the number of engineering graduates.)

In higher education, industry has offered to supply top executives as visiting professors, boost the earnings of key academics through consultancy work, provide equipment on loan or as gifts and commission universities and polytechnics to supply courses on contract.

Surge in technology enrolment grinds to halt

The growth in enrolments on engineering and technology courses at England's polytechnics and colleges stopped last autumn.

Early figures from the Department of Education and Science show that the rapid rise in the Government's favourite subjects which occurred between 1979 and 1981 slowed in 1982 and has now come to a halt. The part-time intake to these subjects actually dropped by 2,000 last year.

First year enrolments on full-time and sandwich degree courses in the public sector fell by 2 per cent, to 31,000, after rising steadily since 1979. This figure excludes teacher training, where the intake dropped by 8 per cent, to 12,000, continuing its long

decline since the mid-1970s. However, the first year intake to all types of advanced full-time and sandwich courses stayed the same at 100,000 and part-time first year enrolments rose by 1,000 to return to their 1982 level of 103,000.

Total enrolments on all types of advanced courses for all years increased by 10,000 to 394,000, as the high intakes of recent years worked their way through.

Enrolments on Advanced Further Education Courses - October 1983, DES statistical bulletin 884, available free from the department's Statistics Branch, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH (telephone: 01-928 9222 extension 2374).

Firms want cheaper course staffing

Employers negotiating the fees they will pay colleges for Youth Training Scheme courses next year are criticizing them for raising the pay and status of the lecturers.

The firms are being encouraged to make this a bargaining point in confidential advice sent them by the Confederation of British Industry.

Employers in many parts of the country are still arguing with their local authorities as to how much they should pay for off-the-job training following the failure of the CBI and the local government associations to agree a national scale. The CBI wants employers to hold out for a 25 per cent discount on the full costs to the colleges, which would mean fees going up by less than 5 per cent - the amount by which the Government has raised its YTS grant to employers.

The CBI confidential guidance to the employers suggests a number of arguments they should use to beat down the price. The one which has most angered local authorities is that the cost of running the courses has been raised unnecessarily by a different "mix" in the grades of lecturers used for YTS work. The CBI alleges that this accounts for an 8-4 per cent increase in total course cost, and says that the colleges are wrong in using more full-time senior staff for YTS work. Instead, it says, more short-term and casual staff should be used for YTS work, leaving the senior staff to traditional courses.

Edited by
Mark Jackson

The CBI is also telling its members that they should insist on paying for only 30 hours teaching a week, and not the 33 hours which most authorities are likely to use for their costs. And coffee breaks and meals should be excluded from the time paid for, it says.

Reports to the CBI indicate that the rise over last year's charges being sought by local authorities ranges from the bare five per cent in Cambridgeshire to as much as 30 per cent in the case of some of the cities.

West Sussex is charging very little more for its classroom courses, but wants a big rise for workshop-based instruction. But most of the settlements so far have been at around seven per cent, giving a flat rate of £16.50 per course hour.

Serving staff should be trainers - NUT

Seconding teachers to the staff of teacher training colleges for a year at a time is proposed this week by the National Union of Teachers.

In a circular to members, the union welcomes Government proposals to involve serving teachers more in the selection and training of new teachers but says it can only be done if local authorities provide more teachers.

"It would be ironic if one of Sir Keith Joseph's more sensible suggestions foundered because of his crazy spending policies," Mr Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary, said. "He surely won't penalize local authorities if they spend extra money to implement this idea."

Another proposal commended by the union is the possibility of dual appointments with a teacher spending half his time on normal school work and the other half supervising students on teaching practice.

To enable teachers to assist in the selection of students for training, the union suggests that panels of teachers could be formed on an area basis.

Chelmer makes a favourable impression

by Mike Durham

In the second report to be published on a teacher training establishment, HMI inspectors make generally favourable comments about Chelmer College of Higher Education in Essex.

The inspectors criticize the institute for limited emphasis on some areas of the curriculum in a BEd course launched two years ago. But they also find much to praise.

"The potential of the new course is encouraging and the enthusiasm and commitment of the staff augur well for its development," they conclude.

The institute, on a split site, has the full-time equivalent of 2,600 students, with about 300 taking initial teacher training courses at Breinwood.

In 1979 the institute decided to run down its previous BEd course and introduce a new one validated by the Council for National Academic Awards. The course is designed for teaching in the 5 to 13 age range.

The old modular course linked to the University of London provided limited contact with schools, and a great emphasis on educational theory, the inspectors say. They praise the new

course for its close and frequent contact with schools.

Of the old course, which still has a period to run, the inspectors say: "With such diffuse aims for the whole BEd course it is difficult to see how the institute can evaluate the success of the course for individual teachers."

There is praise from the Inspectorate for the well-organized resources unit, the system of pastoral care, and the overall commitment of college staff.

But the report condemns the art block as "poorly lit, uninviting and inappropriate for the needs of the students".

The range of curriculum subjects in the new BEd course is too limited, the inspectors say. They single out the lack of music, drama and history teaching. The college's almost complete lack of music training, they say, would be "a serious weakness in the repertoire of intending primary school teachers".

Nevertheless, the students now have regular and continuing contact with schools and children and are making profitable and valuable use of their experience, the inspectors conclude.



Chelmer won the inspectors' praise.

NOTICEBOARD

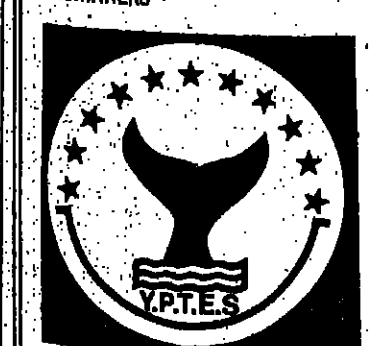
PEOPLE...

SCHOOL APPOINTMENT
Mr Christopher Evers, head of West Hill Park, to be head of Cheam School, Berkshire, on the retirement of Mr and Mrs Michael Wheeler next summer.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS
Mr David Dougan, director of Northern Arts, to be director of the Crafts Council. Dr Ann Oakley, the writer and sociologist, to be deputy director of the Thomas Coram Research Unit at the University of London Institute of Education. She will take up the appointment in January 1985.

Captain John Franklin to be Executive of the Fulbright Commission, to succeed Mr John Harrington, who is retiring in October.

PRIZEWINNERS



Kemplish Primary School, Cleveland, and St Mary's Primary School, County Down, are the winners of the Nature Trail Competition organized by the Young People's Trust for Endangered Species and BBC School Radio Nature programme. Each school was presented with a Kodak camera. Primary and middle schools wishing to take part in the 1985 competition should contact YPTES, 19 Quarry Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3EH.

Wellesley House in Broadstairs has won the Balfour Townsend Warner Prize in the inter-prep school history competition. Pupils of Gowerston School, Swansea, received 32 Gold Awards, 39 Silver Awards and 22 Bronze awards in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, 1984.

CONFERENCES...

August 30 - September 2
British Educational Research Association tenth anniversary conference at the University of Lancaster. The conference organizer is Professor Neville Bennett, Department of Educational Research, University of Lancaster, Carlisle College, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YL.

September 1-2
A residential conference in Durham on "Making our Future: Change in Women's Education". Workshop topics include health, community work, counselling, writing and self-development skills. Details from Eileen Aird, Organizing Tutor in Women's Education, WEA Offices, 51 Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne 1.

September 21-23
"Islam - Views from Pakistan" a residential

conference for school teachers, college and university lecturers, advisers and those working in education at the Pollock Halls, Edinburgh. Fee, including accommodation and meals, £50. The conference is organized by the Lothian Regional Council in conjunction with the Government of Pakistan. Programme details and application forms from Bruce Wallace, Adviser in Religious Education, Dean Education Centre, Belford Road, Edinburgh EH4 3DS.

COURSES...

August 11-18
Swimming Teachers' Association courses for all the Association's Teaching Certificates will be held at West Midlands College, Walsall. A 50 per cent subsidy is offered by the STA Charitable Trust. For details write to STA, 1 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands.

School Skiing
The English Ski Council has revised its Ski Course Organizer Scheme. Part 1 concentrates on organizational problems: part II on leadership problems. At the end of the course teachers should have the knowledge and experience to supervise pupils safely outside formal ski school times. For course details contact the English Ski Council, Bowles Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Eridge Green, Uxbridge Wells, TW9 9LW.

National Museum of Wales
Informal activities will be arranged for children aged 7 to 13 years from 10 am - 4 pm in the Main Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff until August 31. Question

sheets based on permanent exhibits, drawing boards, stools and crayons will be available free of charge. Films dealing with natural science will be shown twice a day.

Rangers House
The Art of Limning - a course for children on Jacobean limners and painters at Rangers House, Blackheath from July 30 - August 3 for 7 to 10-year-olds; August 6-10 for all 11 to 15-year-olds and August 13-17 for all ages on the drama, music and dancing of the Tudor period. The course will culminate in a masque based on the life of the painter William Larkin, whose portraits are the theme of the course. Full details from Linda Adams, Centre for Learning Resources, 275 Kennington Lane, London SE11 5QZ.

British Museum
A children's trail suitable for children aged 8 and above is based on the special display on the Ancient Olympic Games and will be available from the Front Hall Information Desk and in the exhibition, which features a model of Ancient Olympia and vases illustrating events at the Ancient Games. Other children's trails are available on Roman Britain, Egypt, India and China.

COMPETITIONS...

"Management Challenge" a competition for sixth-formers launched by the British Institute of Management and the Institute of Chartered Accountants will take place during the school year 1984-1985. It comprises a computer game designed to teach the fundamentals of running a successful business. Winners will be those who obtain the best company performance

on completion of the game based on decisions reached during its various stages. The finals will take place next May. Details from BIM, Management House, Parker Street, London WC2.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS...

The British Journal of Sports History
The first volume of this quarterly publication devoted to the history of sport, recreation and leisure, includes articles on Sport, Social History and the History, Sport and the Sociologist 1890 - 1914 and a survey of Literature on the History of Sport in Britain. Individual annual subscriptions including postage £18 from The British Journal of Sports History, Frank Cass & Co. Ltd., Gainsborough House, 11 Gainsborough Road, London E11 1RS.

Links
The journal of the Links Association is published termly. The summer term issue contains 44 pages including articles on school-leaving, school links with abroad, art in the primary school, TVEI and the school curriculum and the National English Sharing Scheme. Details of the association, which aims to develop links within all sectors of education, and subscriptions to the magazine which costs £1 from Jean Carless, Glenwood, Cornstown, nr Bridgend, Mid Glam.

Job Sharing in Schools
An account of a policy in practice in Sheffield by Margaret Angier. Copies of the report are available from the Department of Education Management, Sheffield City Polytechnic, 36 Colliery Crescent, Sheffield, price £2.50 including postage.

Savary resigns after shelving of schools Bill

FRANCE

Mary Follain on the background to the Cabinet reshuffle

France's new Education Minister is M Jean-Pierre Chevènement, the son of a primary school teacher, who resigned from a government post only a year ago.

M Chevènement held ministerial responsibility for research and technology, but fell out with the Government over industrial policy. A university high-flier, and author of a number of books on socialist politics, he is known as an authoritarian left-winger.

Unkind critics are saying that being given the education brief is the final blow to a political career which once promised great things.

His appointment is part of a Cabinet reshuffle precipitated by the resignation on July 13 of M Alain Savary, who had held the education portfolio since 1981.

M Savary's resignation followed a surprise television announcement by President Mitterrand that he was shelving the highly controversial private education Bill, known as "Savary's law". Its author, who has spent two and half years painstakingly concocting the Bill, learnt of the decision



Jean-Pierre Chevènement

from his television set.

The President also announced his intention to hold a referendum on an amendment to the Constitution which would allow for referenda on civil liberties. His carefully-worded speech left viewers with the impression that a referendum on the schools Bill would follow. But this now seems unlikely.

Prime Minister M Pierre Mauroy is believed to have resigned earlier than planned in sympathy with M Savary—a Cabinet reshuffle was not expected to take place until September.

Presidential pussyfooting on a schools referendum and the surprise referendum on the referendum have

been hailed by most of the French press as a brilliant political manoeuvre. It is seen as successfully deflating the right-wing opposition, which had become the champion of liberty in a revival of the 100-year-old schools' war between the sometimes fiercely anti-clerical socialists and the largely right-wing supporters of the predominantly Catholic private schools.

Mitterrand has, for the time being at least, extricated himself from the thorny private schools' issue which the opposition has been exploiting to the full, and retrieved the title of defender of civil liberties.

M Savary, a skilled political negotiator and a former leader of the French Socialist Party until M Mitterrand took over from him in 1971, has struggled valiantly to reform the entire French educational system and to produce a private education Bill acceptable to both the Catholic private school hierarchy and his socialist colleagues.

No other single issue has aroused as much public opposition in M Mitterrand's entire presidency — not even massive lay-offs in the steel industry. He has dropped his election pledge to create a great "unified and secular" state education service but persevered with the private education Bill attempting to bring the two sectors closer together and to regulate existing anomalies in state contributions to private schools.

Only two months ago, after lengthy consultations with the private school hierarchy, M Savary seemed close to achieving a compromise Bill. But M Mauroy stepped in and incorporated amendments proposed by the socialist majority, rendering it unacceptable to the private schools' negotiators for whom the move was a "betrayal". Only the imminence of the European elections enabled President Mitterrand to dissuade M Savary from resigning immediately.

Stunned by a week of almost unprecedented political activity in mid-summer, the Right is wondering how it can say "no" to holding a referendum on the theme of liberty — a referendum in which a "yes" will be taken as a plebiscite for President Mitterrand.

On the other hand, a "no" could be the end of his presidency — as it was for De Gaulle in 1969.

High-tech watchdogs

Some 180 delegates from 24 member countries took part in an OECD conference in Paris on new technology in education earlier this month to look at policy trends in the development and application of information technology. They also examined the impact of new technology on educational systems and the problem of software.

The proceedings began with a novel "tele conference" between M Alain Savary, the then French Education Minister, speaking in the conference hall, Mr David King, vice chairman of the council of ministers of education, who was in Canada, and Mr Kenneth Baker, minister of state for information technology, in London.

Mr Baker said that the emphasis in the UK was now on support learning and teaching across the curriculum and that teacher training was receiving special attention. The ever-increasing penetration of information technology into industry and commerce had, he said, spurred national plans to introduce new technology into training schemes for the workforce.

M Savary objected that it was not for industry to give orders to education. France, he said, was concentrating on the production of educational software. He believed the new technology could help under-privileged and immigrant children but warned against expecting too much: "Computer experts in our country are both the most enthusiastic and the most pessimistic."

Mr King admitted that "significant computer use in Canadian schools is only just beginning. We have to learn not just what technology can do for education but what we want it to do."

It was immediately apparent that member countries were at vastly different stages in the introduction of new technology into education and the delegates seemed anxious to make up for lost time. But Mr Ian Wilson, Under Secretary at the Scottish Education Department, remarked on the lack of discussion on how to pay for the new technology.

Dr Margaret Cox of Chelsea College said that the OECD could use its enormous resources to pass on information so that less advanced countries do not repeat the mistakes made by the pioneer countries.

"Most countries, for instance, are still thinking in terms of software specially written for each level but we believe that the same place should be used across the curriculum, at all levels," she said.

Mr Rhys Gwyn, principal lecturer at Manchester Polytechnic, was almost alone in warning of the dangers of new information technology.

"We should be looking at the social implications — at the nasty, big mountains behind the hills we are talking about. We are told it will mean fewer jobs and a reassessment of the work ethic. If so, what is the function of education?"

Mr Joseph Weizenbaum, professor of computer science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, argued that BASIC was "computer pornography" — too readily available and had no brain.

Mary Follain

£1bn schools plan drafted

A working group of India's Planning Commission, whose draft seventh five-year plan (1985-1990) is under discussion, has recommended an outlay of well over a billion pounds for secondary education during the period.

This is one of the highest allocations ever suggested for secondary education. About one-sixth of this sum, it suggests, should be used on increasing the vocational element of secondary education. The working group wants 7,000 schools around the country, 14 per cent of the total, to introduce vocational courses. It says that all new secondary schools at the plus-two stage, the two years between high school and university known as junior college or higher secondary, should have such courses tailored to local employment needs.

A. S. Abraham



On the look-out for votes: Walter Mondale tries to please.

Shaky stand by Democrats

Peter David looks at the education policy drawn up in San Francisco — its compromises and omissions

needed, the Democrats maintain, is strong leadership and financial support at the federal level to enable states and districts to improve teaching standards.

If elected, the Democrats promise, they will restore all the Reagan Administration cuts in federal education programmes and create a partnership for excellence among federal, state and local governments. The platform also promises an overhaul of vocational education and a programme of federal incentives to encourage schools to focus on maths, science,



communications and computer literacy. What is perhaps most interesting about the Democratic platform is what it omits. It contains no reference at all to the notion of merit pay for teachers, which has dominated the reform movement over the past year and is widely regarded as the most significant theme to have emerged from the Reagan Administration's National Commission on Excellence last year.

Although the platform emphasises the need to attract the most talented young people into teaching, it carefully

skirts the merit pay issue because of its unpopularity with the two major teaching unions, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers. Both organizations fielded large delegations at the conference.

Also conspicuously absent is any reference to the apparently endless stream of reforms that has come in the wake of the national debate set off by the Reagan Administration a year ago.

The platform heavily criticizes the Administration for reducing federal grants for education, but makes no reference to the big increases voted in some states, including Texas, Tennessee and California.

Some indication of the extent of the changes can be gleaned from a few of the actions taken by state governments over the past six to eight weeks:

□ In North Carolina last month, the state legislature approved a \$250 (£187.5m) package of new education programmes, including \$190m for a 15 per cent teachers' pay rise and funds for school computer laboratories.

□ A special commission on the status of education in Maine, set up in the wake of the Reagan Administration's "Nation at Risk" report, has just released a report of its own with 22 reform recommendations, including raising starting pay for teachers from \$10,600 to \$15,000, affecting the maths and science requirements for high school graduation, and introducing a statewide testing system to monitor children's progress.

□ In Georgia, a state school board association has called for an increase in starting teacher salaries to \$14,300, introducing a "master teacher" scheme and starting compulsory all-day nursery schools.

What happens when the cane is put away for good

Sir — Few would quarrel with the section of the National Association of Head Teachers' memorandum quoted in the July 6 issue of *The TES* which points to the absurdity of a situation in which some school pupils can be caned because their parents approve or are indifferent, while others cannot be caned because their parents disapprove.

The logical, moral position for Mr John Rex, NAHT president, to adopt is that all teachers (including all head-teachers) should stop hitting all children with sticks, with leather straps and with their hands all of the time. They should not wait till schools are better resourced; they should not point an accusatory finger at the inadequacies of parents; they should simply

stop giving children the worst possible lesson for future life and refrain from hitting them.

Some of us haven't been hitting school children for years, Mr Rex. Some of us have never done it, but I understand that the withdrawal symptoms do wear off in time and even convinced beaters discover that their schools manage quite well without it. Isn't it about time that NAHT policy was changed? Or do your views actually represent NAHT policy? As a parent and as a teacher I would like to know.

JOHN RYDER
6 Hampton Road
Chingford
London E4

Sparing the girls

Sir — Mr John Rex, National Association of Head Teachers' president, speaking of Government plans for parents to be allowed to veto corporal punishment to their children said "it is indefensible that one child should receive corporal punishment while another within the same school cannot be similarly punished for the same offence" and, of course, he is quite right.

There are doubts about whether such an unfair system would work. Unfortunately it would: a similar system has been working for years. In many schools a boy could be caned for truancy while a girl could not be caned for any offence, not even extreme violence.

In other schools a girl would have to be much more naughty than a boy to receive corporal punishment and often a girl's punishment is less undignified — across the hand instead of the bottom — or less painful — with a slipper instead of a cane.

It is therefore difficult to see how one more unfairness would make the system unworkable.

EMMA STEVENS
Manchester University

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

Maths preparation

Sir — May I commend to secondary mathematics teachers for their consideration — even for their holiday reading — the documents produced by the Scottish Examination Board in January this year relating to the Standard Grade in mathematics.

In the context of proposed 16-plus reform and post-Cockcroft curriculum review, these papers give much food for thought. Section 1, 2 and 3 of the document entitled "Arrangements in mathematics" provide an excellent framework for a head of department to review his departmental curriculum policy statement. The Cockcroft "flavour" of these sections cannot be coincidental. The subsequent sections on assessment, based on grade-related criteria, provide a tool for analysis hitherto unavailable to practising teachers.

The specimen question papers, at three levels, with appropriate criteria statements, grade points and test elements deserve attention. The Foundation level papers show how an effective assessment of pupils below the present CSE net can be achieved and again the affinity to Cockcroft's foundation list is remarkable. The General and Credit level papers may well throw some maths teachers into a state of apoplexy for in the rubric it is stated "good thinking is looked for as well as correct answers".

Our syllabuses are sufficiently flexible to accommodate change by means of the style of the questions. The chief examiners are highly qualified in both their subject and in education. Their approach is designed to show that health and enjoyment can be combined. They are well-informed about current thinking, and they had set questions on such matters as the reduction of fat and sugar in the diet before the NACNE report was published. Their professional integrity ensures that every effort is made to avoid conflicts between the theory and practical papers.

Dr Brown suggests. We mark the total test for a range of skills as relevant to particular questions. The ability to apply mathematical principles in a practical situation is one of the skills included in this range. Others include skills relating to management, organization and problem-solving as well as

manipulative skills.

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LETTERS



Early admissions

Sir — I have followed the correspondence relating to the "rising-fives" with interest. Sarah Bayliss's article "Equality for the rising fives" (7/5, June 8) certainly provoked thought about the issue.

When it was established as a county in 1974, Humberide inherited different policies in the four areas which made up the new authority, and we therefore had some children starting school at the age of four and others not starting until the term after their fifth birthday.

We are very conscious of the discriminatory effect of the policies but are even more conscious of the need to treat the very young as nursery children — recognizing that the needs of the four-year-old are not the same as those of the five-year-old.

We are still expanding nursery education but have also devised an early admissions scheme which, we hope, goes some way to solving the problem in some 16 of our primary schools. They have to satisfy the following criteria before admitting very young children:

□ No school should operate an early admission policy unless a member of staff is qualified as a nursery teacher either by recent initial training or by a conversion course.

□ The early admission policy should not deflect resources from the education of other children in the school.

□ Existing nursery provision should not be put in jeopardy by any early admission arrangements in neighbouring schools.

□ Schools under consideration should offer adequate and safe indoor and outdoor space for furniture, equipment and activities.

This is one way of bringing nursery experience to more children, in fact over 600 will have benefited by the end of this financial year, but it also protects those same children from the pressures of primary education.

VERONICA WILSON
Vice-Chairman
Education Committee
Humberide County Council

Haringey's failure

Sir — As a resident in Haringey and head of English in an ILEA comprehensive in Stepney I have taken a keen interest in Haringey schools and their examination results. Mrs Nicole Harrison desperately defends herself by saying that HM Inspectorate are not comparing like with like, in their comparison of Haringey's results with a national sample, but my private analysis of Mrs Harrison's schools and my own English results may offer a more vivid snap-shot of her dreadful results.

In 1983, 99.3 per cent of the fifth year in my school were entered for O level or CSE English; no Haringey school

comes nearer than 94 per cent and one even enters under 50 per cent of its fifth-year pupils for this basic qualification. The pass rate for English in my school in 1983 was 42 per cent, that is an A-C in Language or a CSE Grade 1. This rate again betters all the Haringey schools; indeed, in nine schools, fewer than 20 per cent of the fifth year achieved an O level or CSE Grade 1 in English.

No school should operate an early admission policy unless a member of staff is qualified as a nursery teacher either by recent initial training or by a conversion course.

DIANA BANNISTER
5 Lynton Grange
Fortis Green
London N2

Statistical indicator

Sir — Statistical Bulletin 16/83 from the DES dealt with "School Standards and Spending". A footnote to Table G referred to examination results "which I.e.s. might expect to obtain on the basis of the relationships between academic attainment and the specified socio-economic factors".

The DES seemed then to be at pains to emphasize (a) that these were not "norms" and (b) that these were not symptomatic of any general trend of the DES to develop crude statistical judgments — facts to investigate, yes; indicators, perhaps; judgments, no.

I notice that the recent report of 400 HM-days in the London borough of Haringey includes these statements: "Taking account of socio-economic factors, examination results in Haringey were below what might be expected (DES Statistical Bulletin 16/83)", and "external examination results were poor by national standards".

Do others see this development as interesting?

T M HINDS
Cambridgeshire Education
Department
Shire Hall
Cambridge

Unpalatable truths

Sir — I cannot understand why someone like Mary Warnock, familiar as she presumably is with the integration issue, can write a piece like she did in the June 22 issue of *The TES* without at least some passing reference to views which she must have discussed *ad nauseum* with the members of her committee on special needs.

She fails to consider two key points. First, that placements in residential institutions are in many instances not made primarily with the child's interests in mind but as a result of pressures put on placement agencies by referring bodies. This somewhat cynical view would have been laughed out of a court a decade or two ago, but since then a growing body of sociological research has established that this alternative view has at least some basis in reality.

JOHN QUICKE
100 Banner Cross Road
Sheffield

Work permits

Sir — I would like to issue a mild warning to anyone contemplating working in Greece — particularly as an EFL teacher. It is of great importance that prospective teachers ensure that their future employers have obtained a work permit on their behalf before they begin working.

If such a precaution is not taken, a "permit-less" teacher may find him or herself in the rather bizarre situation that, being accused of one's crime in front of one's students during a raid on the school by the Aliens Police, or, as happened to a colleague, ending up in

a Greek prison for 24 hours.

All the indications are that Greek law (and its enforcement) in this area is to be tightened up in the coming year. I certainly have no argument with the Greek Government, and I realize how much better treated I was than immigrant workers are in the UK. But I simply want to warn that anyone intending to work in Greece needs to be aware of the need to guarantee his or her status as a legally employed foreigner before accepting a job.

PHILIP M GOSS
68 London Road
Horden
Hants

Announcements

DAUNTNEY'S SCHOOL
The Chairman and Governors of Dauntney's School, West Linton, North Devon, are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Christopher Raymond Evans, M.A., to the Headship of the School as from the beginning of the Autumn Term 1985. Mr Evans is Second Master of Taunton School, Taunton, where he worked for 12 years, and has been Head of Dauntney's School since 1983. He will succeed Mr Guy Rogers, M.A., J.P., L.R.A.M., who retires in August 1984 after 16 years as Head of Dauntney's School.

JOHN SENIOR
16 Langdale Road
Birkenhead
Merseyside

Equal status for RC schools

CANADA

In a surprise move, Ontario's Premier, Mr William Davis, announced recently that the province's Roman Catholic schools are to be granted equal status and financing with state schools.

In 1970, when he was Education Minister, Mr Davis resisted strong pressure to take such a step and on becoming Premier fought and won an election in which full public financing for "separate" schools was a major issue.

Pressure from Catholic voters had continued, but there had been no sign of any change in government policy. Catholic primary schools, which take pupils up to 13, have been funded on an equal basis for many years, and in the 1960s this aid was extended to grades nine and ten (when most students reach legal school-leaving age).

Ontario secondary schools continue up to 18, however, and the public-funded non-sectarian schools receive a larger grant for all their pupils going beyond grade nine. The new policy will gradually extend full funding to all grades in the Catholic schools, at a cost estimated at \$45m in the next two years.

Teachers in the present publicly financed system were quick to condemn the move, quoting Mr Davis's own arguments from 1970 that such a move would greatly increase costs and divide society along religious lines.

Delegates to the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco last week engineered a delicate last-minute compromise on "affirmative action" that avoided a clash between Mr Walter Mondale and the Reverend Jesse Jackson, but left the party's view on racial quotas in education bafflingly ambiguous.

While the party's original majority platform specifically repudiated the use of racial quotas in employment or education, Mr Jackson argued that a blunt rejection of quotas would be interpreted unfavourably by black groups who believe strong remedial action is justified to redress past discrimination.

In a late compromise, however, Mr Mondale's staff agreed to modify the platform to meet Mr Jackson's criticism. The new language makes no reference to quotas but calls for "affirmative action goals, timetables and other verifiable measures" to achieve racial integration in schools and jobs.

The wording therefore effectively glosses over the divisive issue of quotas, which have caused immense friction in some school districts where some senior white teachers have been made redundant while more junior black colleagues have been retained under court-ordered plans to improve the racial balance of the schools.

There is no ambiguity, however, in the Democratic platform's general stance on education or in its forthright rejection of the Reagan Administration's claim to have initiated a way of unprecedented reforms in American secondary schools.

The Reagan Administration, the platform claims, "officers misleading bombast about the importance of education while aggressively slashing education programmes". What is

Secondment can refresh the parts that other courses for teachers cannot reach. But Wendy Lynch talks to some who find it can also lead to a painful personal crisis or a broken marriage

'You make quite intense friendships and that has sometimes caused trouble'

1. The following are the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the organization of the American Society of Civil Engineers, for the year 1908:

'During the year away the relationship split up... I guess we were going that way anyway... a break like that accelerates processes which are probably underway already.'



Bryan Chapman calculates that the Government's much vaunted funds for in-service training will hardly scratch the surface

If all Sir Keith's £21m were to be devoted to such courses then a mere 7,000 teachers could be

Leaving aside the logistic and staffing problems that such a programme of INSET

It is therefore clear that Sir Keith's much-heralded £21m will go nowhere unless teachers are prepared to subsidize it, as many have done in the past, by undertaking INSET in their own time. Conversely if the true costs of INSET are as high as this, then a substantially greater investment in curriculum materials designed for use by pupils without the need for an expert intermediary would make economic and educational sense. Interactive cable networks, videodisc systems and all carry with them the prospect of introducing curriculum change "overnight". Should we be bold enough to invest in such systems, the need for curriculum based INSET might disappear.

**'I decided to split up
from my husband;
I met someone else
on the course
and had an affair.'**

Bryan Chapman is a lecturer in the Centre for Studies in Science and Mathematics Education, University of Leeds.

The much quoted prediction that one child in five will have difficulty with learning is based on arbitrary distinctions, Caroline Gipps and Harvey Goldstein discover.

decision has to be made as to the score which determines which children are allocated to the group in question. There are no absolute rules to determine these cut-off points; some arbitrariness is inevitable. As is often the way in such cases, investigators search for precedents. Rutter and his colleagues turned to Sir Cyril Burt for their cut-off score for intellectual retardation, the most extreme of their four groups with special needs. 'There is no infallible guide where to draw the line. . . . However, following Burt an IQ of 70 has usually been found to be the most suitable place to draw the line', they say in *Education, Crime and Behaviour* (Longman 1970).

The choice of a 28 month deficit as the cut-off was again,

"an arbitrary matter depending on the purposes of the investigation. For our purposes it was necessary to choose a point which would select children with a retardation in reading severe enough to have important educational implications. . . . The 28 month cut-off point was chosen because all children achieving so poorly should have been identified by one of the screening methods" (group testing). "and because such severe retardation (which would be expected in only about five per cent of the

Dr Caroline Gipps and Professor Harvey Goldstein both work at the University of London Institute of Education. Their current research includes a study of special needs cut-off points at their implications for schools and local authorities.

Breasting the waves

Interviewers tend to describe the leader of the ILEA as daunting. Not, I think, because of her mind, her achievements or her presence, though all of them are, but because of her passion for life. It is a passion which embraces cats, dogs, family, politics, feminism, gardening, the working classes and the education of all London's children - and it does so with gloriously daunting, working class gusto.

She puts me in mind of one of those magnificent women on a seaside postcard, apple cheeked and beaming, breasting the waves with supreme confidence and a striped bathing costume, while some timid admirer dips a fearful toe at the water's edge. It has often been thus in her career, I suspect, though whether the Whitehall mandarins knotted their handkerchiefs is another matter.

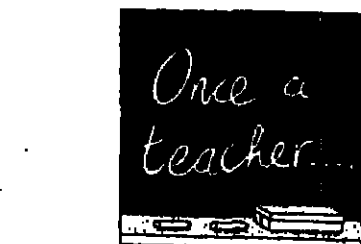
We met at her Islington home and promptly went out to lunch. She is a great talker, funny, articulate and forthright. She talked on the way to the pub, over beer and shepherd's pie till the landlord threw us out - "Come on girls, finish plotting the revolution somewhere else!" - and in the splendour of her office at County Hall.

And through all the talk ran the dual threads of politics and the working class origins which, she says, provided the motivating force for everything she's done.

She was born in Hull, the daughter of a factory worker and a midwife. A bright child, she was sent to the grammar school and destined for an office job. Until the school suggested university, an English degree and teaching. And so it came about. "At no point did I make a decision of any sort," she says, still unable to believe it. "I simply went to school and the system did the rest. When I



Frances Morrell, leader of the Inner London Education Authority tells Susan Thomas how she got out of teaching to change the system



'We've expanded provision for the disadvantaged, the unemployed and the 16 to 19 year olds, maintained a clear, coherent, anti-racist policy and kept to our budget'

thought about it afterwards I thought - How did I get here? This is my life. And I was infuriated."

But by then eight years of teaching, in grammar school, secondary modern and technical ("sometimes with 45-50 in a class") had convinced her that the system was rotten, anyway. "I was shocked by the institutionalized wastefulness, the way the grammar schools wrote off the bottom streams and the appalling lack of personal choice. It was a question of staying in teaching and trying to help working class children or recognizing that the system would frustrate the attempt and trying to improve the quality of education from outside."

To this end she tried freelance journalism, working for *The TES* among others. "They let me go to all these wonderful educational conferences. I know that might not be everybody's idea of excitement," she said catching the startled look on my face, "but it taught me a great deal and I enjoyed myself."

London in the Swinging Sixties must have given her, albeit belatedly, that breathing space between school and work which the upper classes take for granted and the working classes never dream of until unemployment descended on them. That time revitalized her, and redirected her and after two years she was ready for something with more bite to it.

She found it in the role of press officer, first at the NUS, in the days when Jack Straw was president and student unrest the rule, then with the Fabian Society where Shaw, Benn, Crossman and Co were producing major policy documents, and finally in the National Children's Bureau, where Min Kellmer Pringle was completing *Birth to Seven* - "Research which graphically documented the handicaps of working class children."

"I had been a member of the Labour Party,

since '64", she said in answer to my question, "but I wasn't involved. I didn't know how to be." Now she knew. It had been a three year intensive political education, a sharpening of talent, an introduction to strategic thinking, to some of the most influential figures in the party and to survival skills. She gained confidence, resilience and contacts, and in 1975, only five years after leaving the classroom, joined Francis Cripps at the Department of Energy as senior political advisor to Tony Benn.

Now that was a pretty intimidating experience for a working class girl. "At first I was awestruck and then, as I found there were no dazzlingly clever mandarins, my working class defiance dropped away."

The experience informed her, she says. It informed her about the obsessive secrecy of central (as opposed to local) government, about the practical difficulties of working motherhood and above all, about the "absolute, resolute, cold-heartedness and dislike of working people that you got in the upper regions of that aspect of the civil service and among top management and bankers."

"It was a chilling experience. I remember sitting on an industrial board with these extraordinarily well paid men... they were all men... arguing about the monopoly powers of the gas and electricity industry. They were saying things like 'We've got to stop all these single girls,

unmarried women, having children and defaulting on their payments... We've got to disconcert them.' It was all amazingly Freudian. And there they were, censoriously moralizing on £30,000 or £40,000 a year." Nearly a decade on the experience can still move her to anger and it was at this point in the conversation that we were asked to leave the pub.

It may be some consolation to her to know that her time in Whitehall is still remembered with alarm by those same despised mandarins.

When Labour lost, Mrs Morrell became a sight of relief and retiring to domesticity, became a Labour activist, co-founder of the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, executive member of the Women's Action Committee and vice chair of the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy. By 1981 she was the ILEA and GLC member for Islington and Finsbury, and chair of the Schools Sub-committee. In April last year she was elected leader of the ILEA. She has this unerring knack of being where the action is hottest.

Happily her faith in human nature has been resuscitated at County Hall, she says. It seems there is a world of difference between the career civil servant in Whitehall and the officers of local government; between "those departments of central government where pressures from the private sector are the norm and inefficiency and ignorance are concealed by the Official Secrets Act", and County Hall where the officers of local

government are "people with a commitment to the community and decision making takes place in public committee".

Her passion, you see, extends to local government. Since she became leader, the ILEA has won a major victory in the battle for survival even while the GLC's fate hangs in the balance. It has also grasped the nettle of educational disadvantage in a way that no other L.E.A. has dared. What I asked, did she consider were the authority's educational achievements?

She pondered and set the scene and told me. "At a time when the government is undertaking a strategic reversal of the '44 Education Act, we have set up three independent enquiries (into primary, secondary and special education) to help us identify our main educational objectives and (at the same time) launched a three pronged attack on underachievement - among ethnic minorities, working class children and girls."

"Hargreaves has clearly been very well received," she said with evident pleasure. "Soon the other two reports will be out and we're also coming up with the practical steps to implement the proposals."

"We've expanded provision for the disadvantaged, the unemployed and the 16-19 year olds, maintained a clear, coherent, anti-racist policy and through all this," she said with heavy emphasis, "we've kept to our budget."

The galling thing is that so little of all this gets into the national press. While gossip columns rabbit on about monstrous regiments of women running London's schools, about her daughter's car rides or choice of school, major educational innovations pass without comment. Though not by everyone, it must be said.

For prominent on her mantelpiece, a black-board shaped greetings card poses the question, "How does the leader of the ILEA live down being praised by Sir Keith Joseph in the House of Commons?" Perhaps though it was faint praise and just a Tory plot to send her to another place.

And so at last, sitting in the distinctly male, magnificently wood panelled leader's office at County Hall, we got round to discussing the role of women in politics. For Mrs Morrell has evolved some interesting theories about women, political structure and the reason why our first woman Prime Minister is unable to forward the cause of equality.

"Mrs Thatcher's conduct of government has involved replacing the role of male dominance with a picture of female dominance - which is indeed not particularly pleasant," she said. "The fact that she shows contempt for her Cabinet colleagues obviously relates in part to her own personality but it also relates to the whole tradition of the Conservative Party by which power is handed down from above."

"The function of the leader is to take decisions and the function of the party is to support the leader, occasionally withholding assent. At this point the leader thinks again," she explained.

"Now this is a very male structure," she continued, "and it is difficult to imagine the liberation of women inside such a hierarchical arrangement."

"By contrast the organization of the Labour Party is collective... power comes from the rank and file... and delegates and representatives may only implement decisions after collective discussion. Now that is a wholly different structure and it empowers, though it does not ensure, the liberation of women in politics."

"I think that is a very important distinction - it shows what different structures determine. And, I think it is the explanation of Mrs Thatcher's leadership."

And Mrs Morrell's leadership? She enjoys a different style. She is, she admits, a broad based strategist, good at thinking on her feet, happy to leave the paperwork and details to the rest of the team, and above all, dedicated to collaborative decision making and alliances between the sexes which are based on independence, not exploitation and dependence.

Once, long ago, in the days before Whitehall she stood for Parliament. Then, pregnant and inexperienced, she lost Chelmsford to Norman St John Stevas. Is she still politically ambitious, I asked. Of course, she said, but too involved in London to give it much thought at the moment.

So how does she see the future? As a long holiday at the seaside. But it is only a short swim from County Hall to Westminster, and she is bound to put in some practice this summer.

And to think that this is the woman whose headmaster told her that she would never again have so much power as she did in charge of a class of children.

Next Week: why Mary Whitehouse gave up the classroom to clean up TV

Review

A telling exchange

Marion Glastonbury on the work of Harold Rosen

"In the course of an evening," declared a friend of Harold Rosen, "he can toss off enough deas to fill half a dozen books, and supply the momentum for years of research with a chance remark."

The enthusiasm generated among colleagues and students in the Department of the Teaching of English (Mother Tongue) at the University of London Institute of Education also infects those who have met the professor and former schoolmaster only in print. Arguments are infused with a sudden sense of urgency. Readers are struck by the personal relevance of public debate. A fresh start seems worth attempting even in hard times. So it was only to be expected that the recent two-day event to mark Harold Rosen's retirement should impress us as a launch rather than a valediction; not so much the end of an era; more a sort of stirrup-cup on the eve of several new departures.

The occasion was the seventeenth in a series of bi-annual conferences on "Language in Inner City School" at which teachers and academics meet to consider the nature, aims, history and changing conditions of their work. This is a more unusual venture than it sounds. What could be more natural? Any pedagogic theory worth the name must be derived from observation, tested by practitioners, modified in the light of experience. Yet the impetus for inquiry seldom comes from below, starting with the pupils' needs and changing conditions of their work. This is a more unusual venture than it sounds.

Whenever close attention has been paid to what children do with language (and, in many communities now, they negotiate more than one) unsuspected skills and subtleties are revealed in operations that are normally taken for granted. Such evidence may, of course, be disparaged as "anecdotal". Equally, stories that spring from the impulse toward narrative that Barbara Hardy has characterized as "a primary act of mind", are generally viewed with less favour than expository or analytical prose. We write "essays" instead of "compositions", once we've been urged to put away childish things.

The art of the raconteur, the science of narratology. "Sorry. Not our sort of word. See if you can think up a better one" - preoccupied speakers at the conference. Wayne C Booth, Channon emerges from these pages as typical of those people Nicolson described as thinking "only of their own fortunes, which means hatred of the Reds" (and how rabid on this score Channon is!) something which "creates a perfectly artificial but at present (1938) most effective secret bond between ourselves and Hitler". One seeks in vain in these pages for any condemnation of the Nazi regime on grounds of principle, ideas, human values.

Indeed, Channon writes (1949): "I have come to the conclusion that I have no morals, no ideals, no principles whatsoever - except that of good manners... One has a richer, more varied life, if one keeps up appearances and a code of distinguished manners." *The Diaries* are what one might expect of such a diarist, boring, uninteresting and irritating. Hazlitt described people of this kind as "... a set of men existing at all times, who can never arrive at a conception beyond the still-life of politics, and in the most critical circumstances and in the convulsion and agony of states, see only the violation of forms and etiquette".

Nicolson's *Diaries and Letters* are altogether different, those of a patrician in outlook and principle who tries to guide himself by them. This cannot be a derisory comment from Channon: "... dear sentimental, hard-working, gentle Harold, who is always a victim of his loyalties. He refused to go through Germany because of Nazi rule" (Austria, 1938, just after Channon's weeks of hob-nobbing with the leading Nazis in Berlin).

One striking thing about these comments is their compassion and humanity. Hitler's annexation of Austria draws from Nicolson, inter alia, a condemnation of the Nazis for their denial of the human dignity of their victims, the occasion being a particularly nasty and mean instance of the persecution of Jews. Another is the circumstances that Nicolson can prevent his tastes from interfering with his principles, at least at times. He writes from South Africa, describing his shocked horror at the realities of apartheid ending, "You know I hate niggers... But I do hate injustice more... it is like Hitler all over again... The pure police state substance."

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and an undisputed fact. His example has established an informal network of autonomous collaborators, who decide which direction their investigations should take, devising projects, preparing materials and recording the responses of children whom they see regularly and know well. It is this shared expertise, familiarity with the social context and authentic contact with what is actually happening in classrooms that lend force to Rosen's advocacy of pioneering methods and to his passionate polemic against "superannuated gods", philistine apparatchiks, the latest Parisian styles of radical chic, and "those who would reduce us to hypnotized purveyors of technocratic idiocies".

"Neither Bleak House nor Liberty Hall" should represent the aspirations of English in the curriculum, according to Rosen's inaugural lecture on attaining his (specially designed) Chair in 1981. There is nothing intrinsically sentimental, unrealistic or impractical about the resolve to promote cooperation, creativity, spontaneity, growth. It has been, in being, tried. The divisions of a stratified profession get in the way, and so do other snobberies, social and intellectual. The prestige accorded to certain activities and forms of knowledge designates others, so that the learner brings to school a fragmented self, some parts deemed acceptable, some to be left outside.

Rosen has devoted much of his career to rescuing excluded elements from the scorn of the elite and the neglect of the Establishment. Twenty years ago, the requirement to write continuous prose as a feature of examinations needed defending against more easily marked grammatical tests. ("It's important not to be bored" insisted a plaintive appendix.) Later, "The Language Monitors" provided a scathing critique of assessment in the service of "scientific management". The importance of speech for language development had been abundantly demonstrated by material from 85 primary schools, collated by the late Connie Rosen. Nevertheless, the vital role of talking and listen-

ing in lessons was threatened by unenlightened interpretations of the Bullock Report. When we're not browbeaten by misleading statistics, educators are in danger of being seduced by flattering fallacies. One such was the notion that working-class infants are socialized into a "restricted code" at home. Hence the blame for any ensuing failure to thrive within the educational system could be laid squarely at the parents' encumbering door.

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professor at Chicago University and author of the seminal *Rhetoric of Fiction*, wondered how society might give birth to better stories, and stressed their awesome power for good or ill. He and Harold Rosen have been friends since the end of the war, when both were recruited to furnish cultural diversion for American servicemen awaiting transportation out of Europe. Both came from families which valued education but hadn't had much of it, and these unprivileged origins left a common commitment to the democratization of knowledge, and a distrust of mandarin jargon and narrow definitions.

Both have been receptive to the challenge of feminism: a promising sign in senior scholars. Professor Booth attended a workshop which called upon participants to construct the script for "a woman's adventure". Discussions here and elsewhere on silences and stereotypes were a measure of the strides we have taken collectively since Professor Rosen first supervised Dale Spender's thesis on man-made language, protesting (it is alleged, perhaps apocryphally) "But you haven't mentioned class!" To which the candidate retorted: "How many doctorates mention gender?"

Harold Rosen's recent reflections on narrative - its ubiquity in human life, its low status, the ways in which it could be nurtured, the uses to which it might be put - have been set down in *Stories and Meanings*, a fascinating publication from the National Association for the Teaching of English. This combines domestic reminiscence with a critical survey of contemporary specialists - Bakhtin, Barthes and Genette - and concludes with a tragi-comic episode from Rosen's school days, shaped as a written discourse by previous delivery to a youthful audience at a Tottenham school (to whose English department Rosen is now connected by marriage).

The breadth and substance and energy of work inspired by Rosen's initiatives can be seen in the testimony of two dozen contributors (including three talented relatives) to *Changing English: Essays for Harold Rosen* edited by Margaret Meek and Jane Miller and published by Heinemann at £6.95. The strands of the book are as diverse and invigorating as the happenings at the conference, where students acted and peace-workers planned and Frankie Armstrong sang. Toddlers wandered round the exhibition of children's paintings, newly acquired chants and choruses from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean were hummed in corridors, and the bookstalls were supplemented with parcels of leaflets eagerly produced from hold-alls: "Let me show you what's come out of our literacy group."

High society

Pierre Watter on two celebrated diaries, now published in cheap and accessible form

Chips: *The Diaries of Sir Henry Channon*. Edited by R R James. Penguin Lives & Letters £4.95. 0 14 057 003 9
Harold Nicolson: *Diaries & Letters 1930-1964*. Edited and condensed by S Olson. Penguin Lives & Letters £4.95. 0 14 057 005 5

Though of the same generation and in more or less the same social milieu, two more different persons than Sir Henry Channon and Harold Nicolson it would be hard to find. For Channon, an Englishman by adoption, without background or tradition, fashionable. English "society" was the standard, the pattern, but only so far as it could be understood by one for whom appearances were all there was, to whom any more substantial guiding-principle remained unknown. For Nicolson, a member of that society by birth and education, principle of some kind was the foundation of like, that which gave it the sense of having a value and purpose beyond the confines of "society". Inevitably, when they met (as they occasionally were bound to do), they found each other in many ways unpleasant; and their remarks about each other in their diaries are as revealing of themselves as of the other.

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Nicolson, (left) and Channon

The difference between Nicolson and Channon is aptly shown in their respective attitudes to gossip about their friends. Told by Pope-Hennessy that his diary was indecisively boring, Nicolson wrote, "I must try and render it less of an engagement book... But no gossip. I do not think it right to record day by day the turpitude or sexual aberration of my friends..." Channon, however, notes, "... The weaknesses of one's friends are more amusing to chronicle than their dignified conduct, which one takes for granted..."

There is something tragic about the work, perhaps best expressed in a letter to Violet Bonham-Carter (1943). "Throughout my life... I have been with people who... did share, or at least understand, my values. We may have differed as to the relative values of such virtues as truth, beauty, tolerance, fairness, generosity, courage, faithfulness and taste. But the assumption has always been that these were desirable virtues possessing a certain absolute validity. We took it for granted that to these ethical values certain intellectual values should be added - intelligence, wit, humour, knowledge... They were the accepted currency with which we interchanged ideas. Suddenly, I have found myself faced with a group of people who not only do not understand, but actually do not know, these weights and measures... are honestly quite unaware of the standards which to us seem the axioms of life..."

The *Diaries and Letters* are, perhaps, unwittingly something of a throwaway to a world that has virtually disappeared. That alone makes them fascinating reading, even when there is disagreement with the opinions expressed and the actions taken. One may not accept Nicolson's notions of what the ethical and intellectual values enumerated consist in; but the mere fact of their having constituted a shared standard among a fairly large number of people is something that induces a certain nostalgia, now that these, however conceived, are rejected on many, and at times, conflicting and contradictory grounds.



Castro's revolution

Philip Jacobson on Central's six-part documentary

Cuba: 25 Years of Revolution. Central Television. Thursdays 9.30 pm.

Consider these two faces of Cuba under Fidel Castro. Soon after the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua in 1979, a small army of Cuban doctors and teachers arrived to help put the shattered country back on its feet. They were some of the most impressive men and women I have ever met: dedicated, cheerful and hospitable, fantastically hardworking and intensely proud of representing Cuba's revolution in another Central American nation that had defeated a hateful regime shored up by Washington.

Then take the case of Ethiopia, where Cuba dispatched thousands of its best troops to spearhead the efforts of the Soviet Union - still notably unsuccessful - to secure victory for its clients, the bloodstained Dergue, over the Eritrean secessionists. Castro had once thought so highly of the Eritrean cause that Cuba was actively backing the guerrillas who have fought so bravely for so long to control their own destiny.

The blurb for Central Television's ambitious six-part series, *Cuba: 25 years of Revolution*, which started last night, says that the films examine the successes and failures of Castro's regime, but are more concerned with people than the politics. Fine, but how does one begin to separate the two in a state where the ubiquitous Committee for the Defence of the Revolution monitors everyday life relentlessly to ensure political conformity? Those Cubans slogging through the Nicaraguan outback were bringing something more than literacy and medical care to

the *campesinos* - they were exporting Castro's revolution to another of Uncle Sam's backyards. Those tough professional soldiers were in Ethiopia because the Kremlin demanded a return on its enormous investment in sustaining its Marxist bridgehead just 90 miles off the coast of Florida (among many interesting snippets of information, Central tells us that the USSR is paying some seven times the free-market price for Cuban sugar, and also heavily subsidizes almost all of Castro's oil imports).

There were quite a few moments in the two Central programmes that I watched where a sharper, more rigorous approach to the subject would have paid off. A long sequence from a women's jail, interesting enough in itself, cried out for a follow-up interview on the subject of Castro's 3,000-plus political prisoners. Amnesty hasn't been allowed near them for years, but just the other day Sr. Jorge Valls was in London explaining what it was like to be a *prisionero* - an inmate who refuses political rehabilitation. According to Valls who had been an active opponent of the Batista regime before being imprisoned by Castro, plantados were singled out for the roughest treatment and routinely kept behind bars long after completing their mammoth sentences (Valls served 20 years for coming forward to defend a friend accused of having been a Batista informer).

We also had footage from a "secret" military camp - with British television cameras there? - where young Cubans are taught to defend their revolution (Castro likes to claim that 6 million people, about 60 per cent of the total population, are available to repulse any invasion from the US. Experience suggests that half-trained militia are

fairly useless.). Perhaps Central asked the obvious, awkward question about defending the revolution against defenceless women and children in Eritrea - and got nowhere. It would have been a good idea to know. That said, there was much to admire in films I saw, above all the outstanding camera work of Peter Greenhalgh. The scenes from a psychiatric hospital were both moving and inspiring, leaving uncomfortable suspicions that few of our own institutions can be run as humanely. Health and literacy were among Castro's first priorities for Cuba, and the record in both sectors bears comparison with that of most developed nations. Even so, as Central points out, ordinary Cubans are not free to read what they like since the press is rigidly censored (cf Nicaragua, where La Prensa battles on to present the independent voice in the face of Sandinista hostility).

Viewers must decide whether they agree with Central's conclusion that 25 years on, most Cubans (and remember that over half the population were born since 1959) are happy enough under Castro. I certainly think so. Despite the large number of refugees who have voted with their feet, as one man says to camera, "Fidel signed life to us, life at last". The series is probably correct, too, in asserting that Cuba's achievements represent "the exemplary model" for any other Third World countries striving to improve conditions for their people. Personally, I incline to the view of Francois Mitterrand, speaking of El Salvador: "The West would be better advised to help these people than to force them to remain under the jack-boot. When they cry out for help, I would like Castro not to be the only one to hear them."

Instant radio

"Battleground" was the gentleman's word for it. Not surprisingly, considering the general subject of his war report, "It was Radio 4. Much more noteworthy was the fact that the unlikely correspondent was no less a BBC maverick than the scholarly and incisive Stephen Hearst, once controller of Radio 3 and now special adviser to the director general.

The light to which he was turning his analytical ear (in an article published earlier this month in the trade magazine *Broadcast*) is the one between instant and scripted radio. As he reported, "Instant broadcasting originates largely off the top of the head: interviews and chats are its currency, cheapness and popularity its potent attractions. Scripted broadcasting requires the filter of written language to sift the dross before the remainder is let loose on the public". Mr Hearst went on to suggest that, while the former has conquered Radios 1 and 2 and Radio 3 remains a sanctuary for the latter, it is Radio 4 where the territorial warfare is now being waged.

Such musings may well have been prompted by the fact that, long before

the Thursday morning *Rollercoaster* experiment has come to the end of its life and been assessed, a similar mixture of freewheeling chat and what the BBC describes as its features, has replaced some perfectly good programmes in the "one hundred minutes" that lead up to the Sunday lunchtime news. In principle there is absolutely no reason why *The Colour Supplement* (as this "glossy new Sunday magazine" is called) should not work. It has worked before. Twenty years ago, in the very same slot, the North of England Home Service produced a stylish and witty anthology of well-made short programmes under the banner title *Talkabout*. What is new about *The Colour Supplement* is its belief that nobody can concentrate for long on a given subject (resulting in superficiality) and its over-reliance on the live and unscripted.

Radio 4 is obviously aware of the dangers of instant broadcasting. Quite the funniest comedy show being broadcast anywhere at the moment is its *Radio Active* (Mondays 12.27, repeated Tuesdays 6.30). A parody of the archetypal local radio station, it

savages the off-the-cuff interview (Now, I've done a little research, just a little research...), the poorly planned foreign link-up, and the dire phone-in. Presenters like its increasingly sour Mike Channel, sublimely confident and ignorant Anna Daptor and the woefully incompetent Martin Brown attempt instant radio on many real stations. I cherish the last I heard on my car radio having a brave stab at a live "down your way" type programme. Having asked the local lady of the manor to dedicate a record, she was totally flooded when the lady declined on the grounds that she was not ordained.

In the case of broadcasters like Brian Redhead, John Timpon and Sue MacGregor (soon to join the *Today* programme), instant radio can be entertaining and informative, and has a place on Radio 4. Reliance on personalities who are simply famous for being famous results not in pictures in the mind but merely aural wallpaper, broadcasting that has no other aim but to keep its audience half-listening.

David Self

Failed formula

Saturday Review
BBC2, Saturday Review to July 14.
Omnibus
BBC1, Sundays from June 24.

For three weeks, as the BBC arts horizon passed from one to the other, it was possible to watch *Saturday Review* and *Omnibus* on successive evenings, so the invitation to compare them was unwisely issued by the Beeb itself. Television feels a responsibility to cover the arts and you would think that by now it would have understood something about the formula for presenting such programmes. Any hopes raised by *Saturday Review* have sunk under the dead weight of *Omnibus*.

Handicapped together, the two halves of the programme struggle in opposite directions and get nowhere. *Muzak* competes with modern dance (July 15). Haydn with George Abbott (June 24). When a link is made, it is so grotesquely contrived that you search for some hidden significance: surely there is more to Whistler plus Jim Parker than just an American in London and a Londoner in New York (July 8)? Is there some subterranean bond between the landscapes of Wharfedale and those of Paul Muldoon's poetry? No, there isn't; only Humphrey Burton, wringing his hands and demonstrating that a Haydn mass can be approached with no less reverence than a Broadway producer of musicals. No wonder he seems to imply that he has been hired as the cement between these lumps and that otherwise they are nothing to do with him.

Despite having no taste of its own, *Omnibus* manages to suggest a paralyzing attitude to popular tastes and possibly a confusion of commercial exploitation with genuine popular art. *Saturday Review* also seemed to think it was doing its bit by popular culture when it threw in an item on Bob Dylan or *Indiana Jones* or something about the travel writers and the exhibitions at the Tate. The difference is that while *Omnibus* needed half an hour for its Homage to Muzak, *Saturday Review* did the rise and fall of the airbrush in 10 minutes or less. Its magazine formula let it get out quick and left space for oddities, like Luis Palau's evangelical mission (June 16), without inflating them to events of major cultural significance.

There has been little to quicken the pulse in either series: anyway, most people who want the experiences of poetry, music or painting don't ask the box for them. The deadening of the spirits that comes from watching a private view at the Devonshire Arms Hotel (*Omnibus* July 22), on the other hand, can be got almost anywhere. At least *Saturday Review* offered news and critical assessment, with continuity skilfully provided by its presenters, Russell Davies and Minette Marie, and studio guests who were ready to express their opinions. When Christopher Rick's supported his criticism of Simon Gray's *A Common Pursuit* (an inside knowledge of literary journalism and publishing, he was not just making muzak).

Robin Buss

Landing on their feet

July: time for dance academies to ballot their annual students' star. Ballet Rambert School and London Contemporary Dance School, overlapping, both presented work specially choreographed for them by visiting artists as well as ballets by students.

Rambert student Sara Matthews's opening piece, *Sanctus*, a Grahamsesque pas de six, demonstrated her dancers' delight in dancing: excellent musically, good line, supple footwork, steady turns, strong jumps. Anthony Taylor's classical *Divine's Studies* had first and second year students scrambling to keep up in difficult musical passages making them appear uncertain, even clumsy. Ross McKim's *Two Shades of Blue* and *One of Rosy* showed they could not act with emotion, dance with amazing fluidity and precision; Elaine Tyler-Hill's *Counterpoint* showed excellent partnering; Christopher Bruce's *Dancing Day* demonstrated his dancers' technical prowess, emotional power, musical sensitivity and stage-presence. Second year Raymond Stevenson's ball-game for 12 men (*Super Bowl*) was a dazzling, funny finale.

Viola Forber's *Venom and Antidotes* also drew laughter closing London Contemporary Dance School's show. Parodying modern dance clichés, including grouping, lighting, aggression and angst, it had the dancers laughing with the audience: welcome relief from the solemn impassivity with which they danced the rest of the programme. Choreographic essays by third and fourth year students - *Sil Volo* (Christine Meldal), *Chloro Oscuro* (Pablo Ventura), *Negative State* (Peter Purdy), *Under Moon* (Kim Brandstrup) - had technically expert young dancers exploring states of alienation, pain, despair, using tableaux plastiques to punctuate action. If the dance vocabulary (high-slaps, floor-rolls) seemed repetitious, the savage intensity of *Negative State* underlined the dancers' power.

LCDS seems to repress in its students a natural delight in dancing, to dismiss the need to communicate that delight and share it with an audience. Rambert students take and give delight as though that was what dancing is about. It is.

John James



Penny back

When MGM bought the film rights to Dennis Potter's *Pennies from Heaven* it was on condition that the BBC withdraw the six-part television series of the work from circulation. With MGM's blessing that original series to be given its first public showing since 1979 at the National Film Theatre on August 12. It will be interesting to see whether the work's main, and oft-repeated, artistic gimmick - of actors breaking off to make bits of the *Thames* - will pass when the work is seen in an eight-hour block. I suspect it will.

The all-day *Pennies* from Heaven launches a short season of television drama at the NFT which will run until the end of August. Its selector is Keith Trodd, the celebrated producer of about half of them. With the BBC's policy of broadcasting plays twice at most (and sometimes, as with the Trodd-Potter Brimstone and Treacle, not at all) any chance to see "significant" television works (like Stephen Pollakoff's *Bloody Kids* directed by Stephen Frears) or Jim Allen's *United Kingdom* (directed by Roland Joffe) is to be welcomed.

Lynne Truss

Next week

Katya Watter on the under-appreciated historical strength of Georgette Heyer: Tom Corfe on social history; Literary competition

Bouncing Chekhov

Lunne Truss on 'Wild Honey'

Wild Honey. By Anton Chekhov. Translated and adapted by Michael Frayn. Lyttelton Theatre. Anton Chekhov. Devised and performed by Michael Pennington. Cottesloe Theatre. Chekhov: *The Early Stories 1883-88*. Chosen and translated by Patrick Miles and Harvey Pitcher. Abacus £2.95, 0 349 12338 4. Chekhov: *The Duel and Other Stories*. Translated by Ronald Wilks. Penguin £2.95, 0 14 044415 7. Chekhov: *The Russian Master and Other Stories*. Translated by Ronald Hingley. Oxford Paperbacks £2.25, 0 19 281680 2.

"The only way to proceed, it seemed to me, was to regard the play as fatherless... and to adopt it - to treat it as if it were the rough draft of one of my own plays."

So writes Michael Frayn in the programme to *Wild Honey*, his adaptation of Chekhov's earliest known play, which is usually referred to as *Platonov*. Chekhov's text is very long (the length of his last three plays put together), unwieldy, uncertain in tone, and it has far too many characters. It also requires the appearance on stage of a last-moving train for somebody to throw themselves under. Frayn has performed all the duties of an adoptive parent: he's provided the orphan with a name, instilled it with character, and sent it out into the world with every possible prospect for success. And, perhaps out of paternal indulgence, he's kept it in the limbo.

Wild Honey is an extremely accomplished piece of theatre: it will shine in the National's repertoire. Frayn has done an admirable job, not only in cutting so much out but in having the nerve to put so much in. His version has a sure comic tone, building from a more familiarly Chekhovian lightness in the first act to farce in the second and desperate dark comedy in the third. (This isn't unfaithful to Chekhov's intentions or talents: there are elements of farce in *Platonov*, and Chekhov was to write several farces, or "vaudeville", before the "great"

plays.) Frayn has brought in stage business with guns, railway lines and rubles and has filled out and made unambiguously likeable - most of the characters. He has also introduced ideas and images that, without parody, are convincingly Chekhovian. The brilliant first act in which the widowed Anna Petrovna draws her guests together is suffused by their excitement as they look forward to a fireworks display. Aptly symbolic of wild, bright but ephemeral pleasure, fireworks fit in with the play's pervading sense of cloudless summer evenings while also providing a spectacle for the end of the act. They are integral to the play, yet they are an invention of the "adaptor".

Until now, attention to *Platonov* has largely focused on how it prefigures themes and character types of the later plays. *Platonov* himself, personifying wasted potential, (he is but a humble schoolmaster) was reworked for *Ivanov*. Anna Petrovna, a young widow on a heavily mortgaged estate, courted by local landowners, has something of *Banekskaya* in *The Cherry Orchard*. Both characters, this production reveals, are more interesting for what they are than for what they become: Anna Petrovna, unimpaired by *Platonov*'s rejections of her, has a marvelous impassioned speech about being an educated woman with nothing to do, the anger in which makes her quite different from other Chekhovian ladies in the same position. But it is useful to make connections, to see ideas emerging: such Chekhovian themes as lack of money, provincial boredom and desire to escape to town are all here (although Frayn has cut a character who yearns for Paris). John Gunter's sets, which use the full depth of the Lyttelton stage, are filled with waist-high grass suggesting the beauty but tedious vastness of the surrounding landscape.

Chekhov often brings out the best in actors. In Christopher Morahan's production there are some fine performances, particularly from Charlotte Cornwell and Ian McKellen, both of whom have real physical stage presence. McKellen's performance builds in comic stature as *Platonov* descends from his position as moral seer of the assembly, through farcical indecision as he is propositioned by every woman in sight (he stands contrapuntally, straddling a railway line and addresses heaven, "So this is happiness then. This is what it feels like.") to the neurotic helplessness of a wrecked, defeated man.

Meanwhile, in the Cottesloe Theatre, a very different Chekhovian performance can be seen. Michael Pennington, a dedicated student of Chekhov's life and work, has researched widely for the one-man show he performs. It is a more sombre Chekhov that we see: a dark night of a soul in rapid tubercular decline. It's an interesting and arresting evening. Pennington's great talent being to make every word count as he narrates the story "The Huntsman" or gives Chekhov's account of a conversation with a Siberian peasant. My only quibble is that he may confuse when he

narrates the hallucinations from the story "The Black Monk" as though they were Chekhov's own experience. What a summer for Chekhov, then. For those who rush out of Pennington's show longing to read the stories there are three new paperback collections. Chekhov: the early stories is readily translated and it presents a useful selection from the 500 or so stories Chekhov wrote before he was 28. It includes "The Huntsman" and, a favourite of mine, "Notes from the Journal of a Quick-Tempered Man".

The Duel and Other Stories includes some tales of obsession, including "The Black Monk" and "Terror". *The Russian Master and Other Stories* is a less comfortable translation, but it offers such famous stories as "A Lady with a Dog", "Concerning Love" and the little story "The Russian Master". The text of *Wild Honey* is available from Methuen at £2.95.



Ian McKellen as Platonov

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Sporting chance

Golden Girls. RSC. The Other Place, Stratford Upon Avon.

The Word CINZANOSEIKOCANON, emblazoned on stadiums all over the world, is a sporting term. Roughly translated, it means money. Louise Page's new play at the Other Place takes sports sponsorship as its theme and investigates the unsuitability of the social roles of woman and sportsperson. The show presents us with six women fighting (sometimes literally) for supremacy in a male-dominated world. Five are athletes in the multiracial Olympic relay team. The sixth, in a marvellously brittle performance by Polly James, is a marketing executive for a cosmetics firm. Intent on success for "her" athletics team, she carefully bends the rules on amateur athletic status. Her target is the boardroom, as much as a male stronghold as the male 200 metres relay record which the Golden Girls are out to beat.

However, the girls' struggle mustn't compromise their femininity, because East German androgynous types don't sell shampoo. Similarly, commerce dictates an equal racial balance. All the girls and their trainer want to do is win. The resulting conflict produces a fascinating drama of lost hopes, pain, the fear of defeat and the exhilaration of victory. Characters are finely observed throughout: the irritating father-coach and his over-protected daughter; the black girl channelled into sport as "the only thing she was good at" (superbly portrayed by Juliette Simon); the teacher athlete with a husband at home and a whole day of school ahead of each early morning training session; and her pupil-team mate, wide eyed and naive, running purely for the love of it.

Golden Girls is tightly directed by Barrie Kyle and played against Kit Surrey's clever minimalist set with breathtaking energy. The sweat (and the tears) are real enough. Only the intrusion of some unwieldy monologues interferes with the "will they or won't they win?" tension.

Nick Baker

A touch of class

Labour's Lost is the ideal play for a boy's public school. Home late and happy, as Chips Channon used to note in his diary, the House still sitting. Coursehorn, I learnt a few nights later, is a small Kentish manor house, the sort of place in the country Channon might well have looked at before he settled on Kelvedon Hall. The home of the Bentley family for generations before passing into the ownership of the Earls of Cranbrook and others, at the beginning of the last war it was taken over by Dulwich College Preparatory School.

All this from *Coursehorn Observed*, a jaunty holiday history of the place performed by all 65 of the DCPS final year leavers. Gorgeously costumed, it followed the development of the manor of Coursehorn from the Bronze Age to the present, stopping off at *In 1066* and *At the time* for generalised, the 1573 visit of Queen Elizabeth I, and the bromahua of the Civil War (when the house was burnt down). The most effective scene was a Victorian soirée arranged in honour of one of the Cranbrooks. The recitations of Tennyson and Alfred Noyes are fun, but an exquisitely dreadful rendering of "Nearer and Dearer", sung deadpan by a diminutive Flavia Thornton, stole both the scene and the entire show.

Written and produced by headmaster Robin Farrant, *Coursehorn Observed* was held together by Philip Smith and Victoria Walsmley as the lovers who appeared in every scene, stealing chaste kisses as cave-dwellers, courtesans, Victorian boudoirs and contemporary schoolchildren.

A new play by Snob Wilson has to be an event, and worth the trip to Loughborough. (Fie on those London critics who moan about "trekking out to

Hampstead") *Hamlet* was - although Wilson's contribution was ironically the least remarkable feature of the evening.

Staged by the Charnwood Youth Theatre of Loughborough with the international cooperation of members of the Stuttgart-Freiburg Gymnasium, the play was a contemporary reevaluation of the Red Piper legend. Set in a circus before passing into the ownership of the Earls of Cranbrook and others, at the beginning of the last war it was taken over by Dulwich College Preparatory School.

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Hugh David

Charlotte Mew and Her Friends. By Penelope Fitzgerald. Collins £12.95. (0 00 217008 6.

On March 28, 1928, Thomas Hardy's wife wrote to Siegfried Sassoon "Today I hear that poor, tragic little Charlotte Mew is dead". A characteristic poem of Charlotte Mew's called "Smile Death" starts "Smile Death, see I smile as I come to you and the penultimate line (placed in brackets) is "Show me your face, why the eyes are kind!" Yet her own death, self-administered, was not.

Virginia Woolf wrote to R.C. Trevelyan that she thought Charlotte Mew "very good... and unlike anyone else". Hardy called her "far and away the best living woman poet". Ezra Pound published her in *The Egoist*, and Edith Sitwell reviewed her first volume, *The Farmer's Wife*, favourably in *The Herald*. What, then, in the personality of this unusual and valued poet made her such a "tragic" figure? (She herself would have both hated and acknowledged the description).

After the first 16 pages, packed with preliminary Mew genealogy, Penelope Fitzgerald's compellingly readable biography comes to life and brings to life this complicated, frightened and self-destructive person. The term "friends" of the title can be taken

Persuasive portrait

broadly and one remembers them like characters in a play. But it isn't the entertaining galaxy of famous Bloomsbury personalities who are the key to the enigma. As one would have expected, it is the guardians of her early years who have left their inescapable imprint on her. Victorian Miss Gooden, the family housekeeper and nurse, instilled a sense of sin into the six-year-old Charlotte, a child born for joy. Even at that age Charlotte Mew's emotions were outside, and her delight in the smell of roses and grass was now tinged with foreboding of retribution to come. The enjoyment of sensuality was definitely not allowed; the penalty was crucifixion, a theme that recurs in her poems and her stories.

At thirteen she developed an overwhelming passion for her headmistress, Miss Harrison, that was to last for three years. It transpired later that the lady was a lesbian, a luxury fit can be shared. When Charlotte Mew was 21 her eldest brother was put in an asylum. As insanity was held to be shameful, this had always to be kept secret. Her own awareness of it led her to the decision that she must never

have children and therefore had no right to marry. It may have been part fear and part convenience as by now she was having to come to terms with her own lesbian instincts, or, as she put it, "my warring nature" - a difficult situation for an insecure lady of slender means who was terrified of the least breath of scandal. She was also terrified of being rejected.

When, in 1884, John Lane and Henry Harland started a new quarterly, *The Yellow Book*, it was Henry Harland, its editor, who published *Passed*, the first of Charlotte Mew's stories to be accepted. As with many of her works she wrote it in the macabre and, usefully, she proved to be a very striking reader of her own verse. Miss Fitzgerald reconstructs her subject's encounters, some brief, some long, with many of the leading literary people of the era. Mrs Dawson Scott, the founder of P.E.N., launched the new poetess by inviting her to her poetry readings. She was also taken up by the novelist, May Sinclair, who

hadn't bargained for the fact that Charlotte Mew would fall in love with her. The ridiculousness of the episode is part of Charlotte's tragedy.

As always, her private life continued to be full of problems, and certainly not all of them of her own making. Progress as a poet was also checked mainly because she now refused to contribute to *The Yellow Book* for a curiously personal reason. But she found another publisher - the heroicist, generous Harold Munro who started the famous but ill-fated *Poetry Bookshop*. His assistant, Alida, who later became his wife in the name only, formed a genuine friendship with Charlotte Mew. I notice that the book's dedication is "In memory of THE POETRY BOOKSHOP". Alida Munro is one of the author's sources of information.

Anyone who is interested in Charlotte Mew should read this biography. And anyone who reads it can't fail to become interested in Charlotte Mew. Miss Fitzgerald has pieced together a persuasive portrait of the double-natured, self-torturing personality imprisoned inside this diffident and gentle woman. After reading it one realizes that no one but Charlotte Mew could have "tasted" jewels or said "my body is my soul". Her tragedy was that she was of her time; only her poetry was for the future.

Linette Purbi Perry

An interior world

Georg Trakl: A Profile. Edited by Frank Graziano, with an introduction by Michael Hamburger. Translated by Michael Hamburger, Robert Grenier, David Luke, Christopher Middleton, Siegfried Mandel and James Wright. Carcanet £6.95. 0 85635 479 1.

This is a curious book about one of the most complex and ambiguous of modern poets. The "profile" consists of 43 of Trakl's lyrics, three prose poems, a selection of letters, intriguingly, an appendix offers alternative translations - made by James Wright - of five of the lyrics. Even the book's publishing history is unusual; nominally edited by Frank Graziano for an American edition, it is introduced here by an abridged version of Michael Hamburger's excellent, perceptive essay on Trakl taken from another Carcanet volume, *Hamburger's collection A Proliferation of Phosphors*.

Georg Trakl was born in Salzburg in 1897. He trained as a dispensing chemist, a career that added a dangerous proximity to what was already depressive alcoholism. By the beginning of the First World War he was addicted to opiates and increasingly suicidal. After the tragic battle of Grodek, Trakl found himself in charge of 90 seriously wounded men; outside the makeshift casualty stretchers were summarily hanged from the late-summer branches; one of the wounded was so deranged with pain that he shot himself through the head in Trakl's presence. Under the strain, the young man's mind gave way; less than three months later he died of an overdose of cocaine.

History is littered with similar lives and deaths. Trakl only stands out for the strength of the hundred or so lyric and prose poems written in the last two years of his life. His physical and mental resilience had been extraordinary and like the legendary Caspar Hauser, celebrated in one of his works, he seems to have increasingly inhabited an interior world of great purity and precision, far removed from the grim reality that surrounded him.

His poems are about nothing much more than themselves, almost imperceptibly, a contemporary and self-contained. His contemporary and self-contained. His contemporary and self-contained.

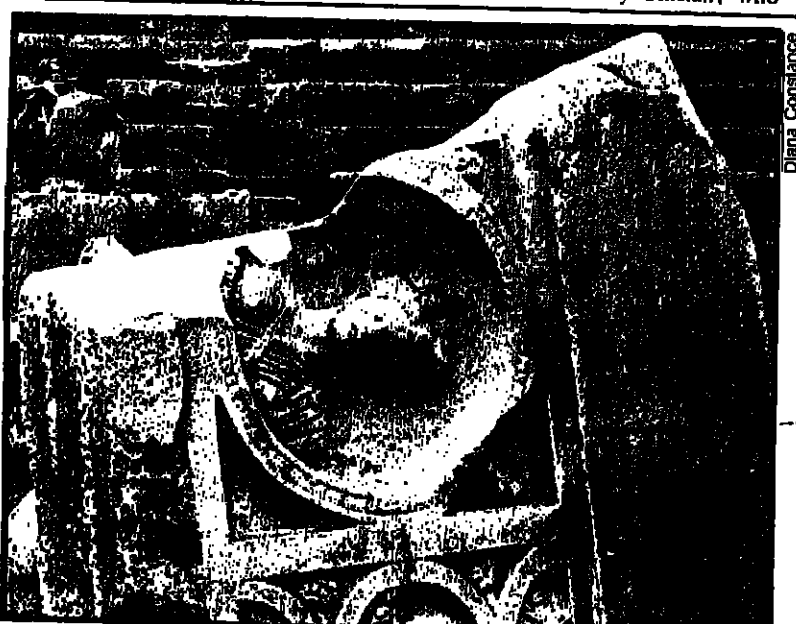
Trakl has been called an Expressionist, an Existentialist, even an Imagist. Categories like "interpretation" are futile with such a poet. Far more abstract than Rilke, Trakl's sense is closest to Hölderlin, the "and" Gertrude to Hölderlin, the "and" Gertrude to Hölderlin.

A word about Istanbul. This sprawling, disordered, beguiling city can only be properly appreciated in the brief time afforded to the average traveller with a realistic guide. Freely has expanded and up-dated his information on the "bridge between two continents" for A & C Black in a brand new *Blue Guide*. Exhaustive on sites and, thankfully, as any one who has tried to get a meal in Istanbul will appreciate, restaurants, the Marmara and Bosphorus shores. There are gems of Byzantine and Muslim architecture in Istanbul and this guide is a must to search them out.

Flotilla sailing is the modish way to experience the Aegean and it now has its own guide in the shape of *The Ionian Islands to the Anatolian Coast* by H.M. Denham (John Murray, £20). The Lycian shore of Turkey is rich in classical sites, access to which is only rarely possible by boat. The mountainous coast is so starkly beautiful that it is the most desirable method of travel. Here you have a handy compilation of charts, sailing directions, weather tips and customs, health and berthing formalities for both the western and eastern Aegean.

John Crossland

Brian Morton



The Roman Theatre, Side, on Turkey's southern coast

Aegean idyll

Minoan sites, in their sometimes sheer inaccessibility, are left to guard the true spirit of the island. Knossos is the prime target for the tourist, being so close to Heraklion and the airport. It isn't like a "hideous house on Boar's Hill" as one writer dubbed it. As Rosseter says "it gives the ordinary visitor an immediate impression of the vast size and lavish conception of a Minoan palace - headquarters".

But to get close to the world of the mysterious priest-king of the fresco you should make the still bone-shaking journey round the eastern tip of the island to Kato Zakro, at the end of its long, winding ravine. You come out at the bottom, covered in pink dust, to the foundations of a totally unrestored Minoan palace, complete with sacred pool (the *Blue Guide* has site plans).

As an introduction to the arts of Prehistoric Greece, in the Pelican History of Art, (£10) is as good as you could wish for.

The other "great island", Cyprus, is also covered by the *Blue Guides*, and despite the new prohibition by the Greeks, that anyone found with a "Kibris" stamp in their passports will not be allowed into Greece, Ian Robertson's text gives ample and fair coverage to the facilities in the Turkish zone. Also he admits that "it would not be edifying if certain of the monuments in the occupied zone were described in their present condition". These monuments are often the old walled towns and crusader castles on which even modern invaders make little impact.

Another recommended work, now into a second edition, is Paul Watkins' *See Cyprus* (Penguin, £3.25).

This is above all a practical guide aimed to help the visitor with a limited amount of time, and includes a section of 22 motoring itineraries. North to the Macedonia of Philip and Alexander, on which there are only two archaeologically-oriented travel sites

dios: my own Macedonian Greece (Batsford, £8.95) and Joan Wynne-Thomas's *Proud-Voiced Macedonia*, (Springwood Books, £4.95). Andronicos's excavations have revealed lately much more of the capital, Aegai - including the theatre where Philip was assassinated - thus adding more colour and authentication to the fascinating story of the royal tomb, which I was given by the archaeologist five years ago.

We cannot leave Greek archaeology without mentioning the well-preserved sites of Magna Graecia. Archaeological guide, by Margaret Guido (Faber, £2.95) is indispensable.

To evoke the atmosphere of places like Delphi or Eleusis, why not pack the two volumes of Pausanias' *Guide to Greece*, written in the second century AD by a Greek doctor of Asia Minor (and now translated by Peter Levi for Penguin, £4.95 each), of an admirably open mind who wished to provide a guide to the temples and public buildings of mainland Greece for the cultivated Romans of the Antonine age. Classics are eternally in his debt for the work, providing as it does a record of the heart of the classical world complete, before barbarians and earthquakes "conquered it all with the hero's earth".

A general guide recommended for the younger teacher travelling on a limited budget with children is *Rough Guide to Greece* (Routledge, £3.95). Archaeological details are given, as well as many practical tips on how to survive on the cheap - and bus times! For the Greek Islands there is Lawrence Durrell's definitive work, now in its third paperback edition, *The Greek Islands* (Faber, £6.95); a work of classic beauty. For those who have never fallen for the alchemy of the Aegean there can be no better recommendation than the Durrell trilogy: *Bitter Lemons*, *Prospero's Cell*, *A Guide to the Landscape and Manners of*

Corfu) and *Reflections on a Marine Venus* (a companion to Rhodes) - all in Faber paperback and priced respectively £2.95, £1.95 and £2.25. Each book evokes a mood of time and place, an idyllic escape which may have changed in many of its details, but is still basically valid.

Osbert Lancaster's *Classical Landscape* (John Murray, £5.95) wears well (first published in 1947) as a zany, but perceptive view of Greece and the Greeks and is recommended as a *mezzeches* to any visit to the country. A highly recommended brief tour of modern Greek history is by C.M. Woodhouse, *Modern Greece*, a short history (Faber, £3.50).

Traditionally Turkey was indifferent to its Graeco-Roman ruins, with large open sites, from which carved marbles and coins could, and did disappear. No longer. Turkish government and foreign money is being sunk into important digs like the Roman city of Aphrodisias and restorations such as Ephesus and Hierapolis. Unlike Greek archaeological publishing, long and comprehensive guides and clear site plans are essential tools for a trip. I have just returned from a tour of Turkey's Aegean coast and my vade mecum was the *Companion Guide to Turkey* by John Freely (Collins, £6.95). It is the best non-specialist guide I've found, with practical tips on distances to, and accommodation near, the sites.

For specialist works that may be weighty but could never be termed excess baggage, you have only the books of the late Professor George Bean, now at last re-printing under the imprimatur of John Murray (Turkey's Aegean Shore, £15 and Turkey's Southern Shore, £12.95). As cities like Aphrodisias are laid bare these books may be up-dated but in their detailed scholarship never superseded.

A word about Istanbul. This sprawling, disordered, beguiling city can only be properly appreciated in the brief time afforded to the average traveller with a realistic guide. Freely has expanded and up-dated his information on the "bridge between two continents" for A & C Black in a brand new *Blue Guide*. Exhaustive on sites and, thankfully, as any one who has tried to get a meal in Istanbul will appreciate, restaurants, the Marmara and Bosphorus shores. There are gems of Byzantine and Muslim architecture in Istanbul and this guide is a must to search them out.

John Crossland

Brian Morton

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Punch up

The Punch and Judy Book. By Ron Maris. Collins £4.95. 575 03414 9. Punch and Judy in the Rain. By Su Eaton and Martin Bridle. Hamish Hamilton £4.95. 241 11222 2.

Punch and Judy causes great difficulty to its present-day practitioners and apologists because of the violence, which gets softened up, or excused on the grounds of tradition. This is a bit puzzling in the light of Star Wars, Space Invaders, and a great deal of the modern material which is supposed to be suitable for children. Many of today's Punch and Judy men revive all the characters at the end of the show, and Punch never knocks anyone down from malice. But this is trespassing on the apologists' ground, which I don't want to do.

Punch and Judy in the Rain strikes me as an apology; it's a pretty, bright picture book based on that nice bit of imagination that wonders what the puppets do when they're not performing. On this showing it turns out that the home life of the Punch and Judy characters is much quieter than their public appearances would suggest.

Jack Ketch the Hangman is shown with his new sausage machine. "I have to make lots of sausages to keep the crocodile happy", he says kindly. He has clearly forgotten that the sausages are supposed to be made from the baby. The Devil is even more of a shock. He lives what looks like a homeless life, wears a grating in Punch's cellar, wears a pinstriped suit, carries playing cards and a pickling

fork, and only shouts "I'll get even with you".

Infinitely more fun can be had from *The Punch and Judy Book*, by Ron Maris. This is almost all pictures, with scarcely any text. The figures are whimsical, slightly sinister, and very attractive. There is so much detail in the pictures that they can be looked at over and over again.

The strongest feature of *The Punch and Judy Book* is the most difficult to describe. By a wonderfully ingenious piece of page design Mr Maris has almost managed to give an impression of movement. Between each spread of two pages is a third, half-width page which makes up the left half of the right-hand picture, and is turned to make up the right half of the left-hand picture. Thus in one spread Judy and



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Punch grapple for the stick. Punch hits Judy, and then Punch stands upright to rub his hands.

Punch's hands, like all the other puppets' hands, remain two-dimensional. Though the puppets' expressions change very slightly, their bodies and movements are restricted accurately to what a glove puppet really can do, so you never see the lower half of a puppet's body. *Punch and Judy in the Rain* necessarily shows all the puppets with legs and not gloves. They would be in trouble trying to have a home life if this were not so, but I still found it objectionable.

The Punch and Judy Book is highly recommended, not only for children, but just as a Christmas present. Buy it!

Frances Farrer

TES Information Book Awards 1984

Publishers should note that entries are now invited for this year's TES Information Book Awards. One Award will be for a book for children up to the age of nine, the other for a book for those aged between ten and sixteen. To be eligible, books must have originated either in Great Britain or in the Commonwealth between September 1, 1983 and August 31, 1984. The closing date for entries is August 31, 1984.

The judges for the Junior Award will be Mary Jane Drummond, Headmistress of Holt House Infant School, Sheffield, and a language development specialist; Marion Glastonbury, who is a regular contributor to educational journals; Gerald Haigh, Headmaster

of Henry Bellairs Middle School, Bedworth, Warwickshire, and the author of many children's books; together with the Editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*.

The judges for the Senior Award will be Patrick Eavis, Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth High School, Hexham, Northumberland; Geoff Fox, who lectures in Education at Exeter University and is founding editor of *Children's Literature in Education*; David Self, writer and broadcaster, and the author of many educational books; together with the Editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*.

Prizes of £150 will be awarded to the authors of the two selected books, and

the judges reserve the right to make a further award of £150 to the illustrator in each case.

It is important that publishers should specify whether their books are submitted for the Junior or Senior category. There is no limit on the number of entries which publishers may submit. No proof copies can be considered.

Four copies of all entries should be sent to: Penny Turnbull, The Times Educational Supplement, Priory House, St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX.

Review copies of titles entered for the Awards should be sent in the usual way to the Literary Editor at *The TES* office.

Plays for now

Six Plays for Today. By Paul Groves and Nigel Grimshaw. Looking After Number One. By Paul Groves and Nigel Grimshaw. John Murray £1.40. 0 7195 3998 6.

More Problem Plays. By Ann Farquhar-Smith. Hamish Hamilton £1.85. 7175 1228 2. *The Goalkeeper's Revenge*. By Derek Nicholls and Ray Speakman. Heinemann Educational £1.80. 0 435 23724 1.

Drama - the non-specialist, let's-read-a-play, English-lesson variety - always goes down well as an end-of-term treat or a Friday afternoon wind-down. The problem is finding the texts, plays which are mutually acceptable to class and teacher. With middle and upper secondary classes it has, until very recently, been acute. Now, suddenly, the area is opening up. But the pieces in *Six Plays for Today* and *Looking After Number One*, both by Paul Groves and Nigel Grimshaw, and *More Problem Plays*, a follow-up by Ann Farquhar-Smith to her previous

collection of *Problem Plays*, are more than just resources for reading aloud and forgetting. Each is designed to provoke thought, discussion and even some eventual written work.

The young characters in *Six Plays for Today* inhabit a seedy but unhappy familiar world of divorced parents, squatters and shuffling families on the fourth floor of a rotting high-rise. Over everything hangs a nuclear cloud - the subject of the final play in the collection which actually takes place in a fall-out shelter. In *Looking After Number One* the focus is on the world of work. The plays provide insights into life on the dole, as a shelf-filler in a supermarket, as an office typist or an upholder of the black economy. In each there is a moral problem to be confronted. Ann Farquhar-Smith's *More Problem Plays* pose social rather than strictly moral problems. Is it wrong to smoke? Or drink? Is there a difference between sex and love? Why are parents so ungrateful?

Although in dramatic terms individual plays from all three volumes

might be seen as over-written and rather forcing their points (making them at times reminiscent of some of the over didactic, drum-banging bits of Brecht), their subject matter lends them an urgency which will probably be effective in the classroom. They will certainly provide lively, provocative material for discussion in social studies as well as English classes - indeed all three books have carefully-prepared suggestions for follow-up work after each play.

The Goalkeeper's Revenge is rather different. A full-length play adapted by Derek Nicholls and Ray Speakman from the writings of Bill Naughton, it was first presented on stage by the Birmingham Youth Theatre. With a vast cast and plenty of scope for imaginative production, it needs no more recommendation from me as a possible school play. There'll probably be bare-kneed fights on the playground to settle who goes to play Bill, Spadger, ferocious centre-forward Bob Thropper and the rest.

Hugh David

Speak for yourself

Drama as a Second Language. A Practical Handbook for Language Teachers. By Suzanne Karbowska Hayes. National Extension College £3.50. 086082 430 6.

Traditionally, language teachers have treated students as Language Acquisition Devices and language learning has been seen as a cerebral activity taking place in a region somewhere between the neck and the skull. Provided the lips and the tongue could make fairly appropriate noises it was assumed that communication would take place - the rest of the anatomy was ignored. Recent developments in language teaching may have got away from the rigid structural approach but even communicative language teaching fails to take into account that "meaning" is not conveyed just through words alone.

Suzanne Hayes's book, *Drama as a Second Language*, is based on the idea that effective communication depends not only on having the necessary linguistic skills but also to a large

extent on the students having confidence and self-esteem; and that these can be taught by "doing and speaking in front of other people; learning to think on one's feet; taking risks; trusting one's own judgment and finding resources in difficult situations".

The word "drama" is used in a wide and loose sense and the activities outlined in the book include mime and movement, games, role-plays, plays and improvisation. Some, eg charades, may be familiar to teachers while others, eg 20 questions, may not strictly speaking be drama. However, the book does provide a useful catalogue of exercises and activities with detailed comments and practical suggestions and is conveniently divided into subsections.

The ideas presented have been tried out with ESL learners as well as adult native speakers. However, all language teachers (EFL, modern languages) and teachers of communication skills will find many of the sections useful since the material can easily be adapted to meet their varying moods.

Rakesh Bhanot

Draw a map or write a guide!

JOHN CRAVEN'S CHILDREN'S BRITAIN COMPETITION

Don't let your pupils waste away their summer break. There's still time to enter a challenging and creative competition arranged by the Map and Guide Group of the Book Marketing Council. Children are invited to individually draw a map (not less than 300mm square) or write a short guide (not more than 3000 words) of any area in the British Isles.

HUNDREDS OF PRIZES

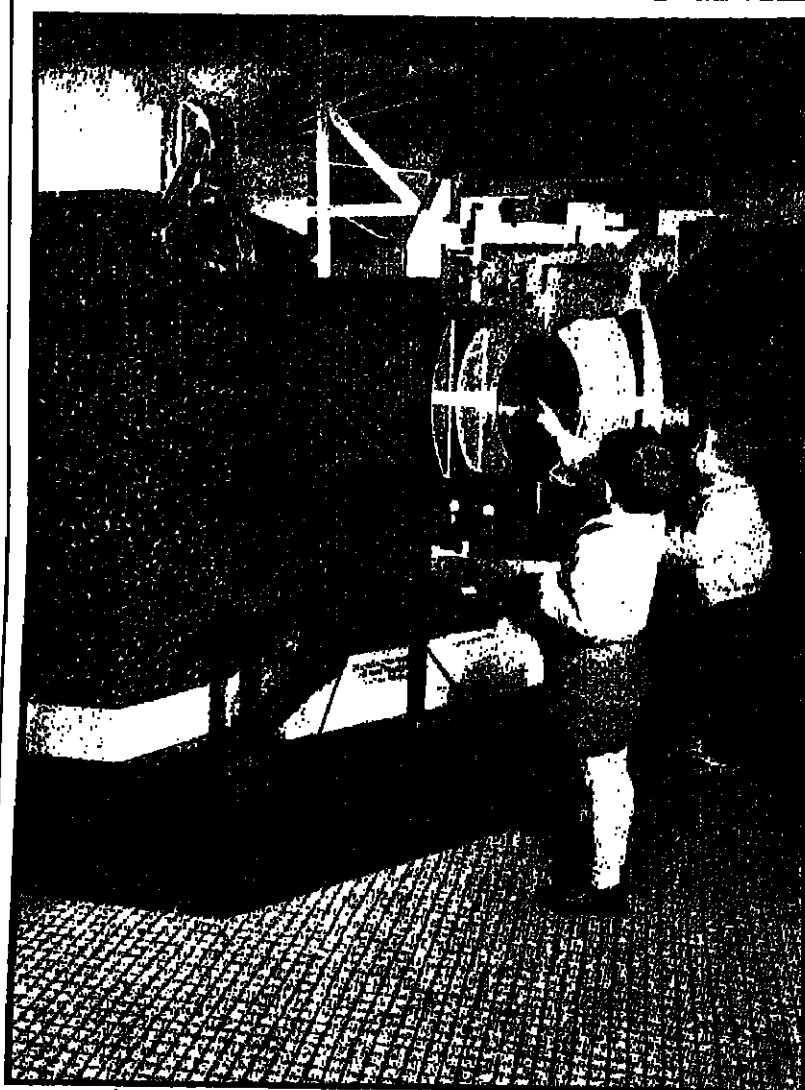
Prizes are divided into three age groups - 12-16, 8-11, 7 and under - and include a holiday in Denmark with Longship Holidays, an activity holiday from the English Tourist Board, and a Country Wanderer Holiday for four, courtesy of AA Travel Services, PLUS hundreds of prizes for the runners up!



HOW TO ENTER

Free entry forms are obtainable from all good bookshops - all entries must be accompanied by a competition entry form. The competition does not close until 31 August.

RESOURCES



Eye opener

Hugh David visits Bradford's National Museum of Photography, Film and Television

Even without the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, a glass-and-concrete pile which dominates the city centre, the energetic Bradford Economic Redevelopment Unit would have plenty to boast about. The mills might have closed, but the city and the whole of West Yorkshire have been reopened under dynamic new management: the tourists are flocking in, mostly on "mini breaks" which combine bargain-hunting in the mill shops with everything from the cultural delights of Haworth to coach tours of *Emmerdale Farm* country.

The museum, however, has a success story all its own. Opened little more than a year ago in the converted shell of a never-completed sixties theatre, it is already poised to receive its 500,000th visitor. Devoted to the technology of the present, it is very fittingly a museum of the eighties.

Its bright, imaginatively-designed galleries leave even the Science Museum in London standing when it comes to push-button action. In one Lord Litchfield, or at least an eerily-lifelike talking dummy, explains the techniques of contemporary photography. In another a giant television screen receives live pictures from a meteorological satellite. Elsewhere a

huge cut-away single-lens reflex camera, more than 20 times lifesize, demonstrates how a picture is taken. There is a full-scale reconstruction of a society photographer's studio in the 1930's and the reconstructed editorial floor of a national newspaper which (though cleaner and far tidier than any newsroom I've ever seen) even has a telex chattering in the corner.

Most popular of all with visitors is the museum's 340-seat cinema. One of only two in Europe equipped with the IMAX projection system which uses film 10 times the size of standard 35mm, it boasts the biggest screen in the country, a white wall like the end of a five-storey building which is 52 foot 4 inches high and no less than 63 foot 8 inches wide. Filling every square inch of this, the aerial photography sequences in the IMAX demonstration film *To Fly* have an almost unbelievable clarity and realism which make even seasoned film-goers cling to the arms of their chairs. (The effect is apparently similar to watching a normal feature film at a distance of only 10 feet from the screen.)

Such state-of-the-art technology is, however, only one reason for the museum's success and popularity. Equally important is its go-ahead,

unstuffy approach. Says Chief Keeper Colin Ford: "This is a living, expanding museum. We have tried to question old ideas of what constitutes a museum, encouraged by the nature of the theatre building in which we have made our home. We use light, colour, sound, movement and a direct involvement with the exhibits rather than with traditional museum showcases or information panels to show visitors what an amazing invention photography is".

Radical views, light years away from the reverential, glass-cased image which museums have traditionally had. (The London Transport Museum in Covent Garden is equally iconoclastic: "Hush, the one sound you won't hear" promise posters on the underground.) Market forces are at work; though admission to the museum is free, metaphorically at least Colin Ford is out there on the pavement, drumming up an audience.

And right beside him is the museum's Education Unit. The place is closed to the public until 12 noon every day for the benefit of school parties. They are welcomed if all they want to do is push the buttons. For more serious groups, however, there are Polaroid cameras, courses on pin-hole photography, photogenic drawing and daylight printing as well as open sessions to the museum's practical workshops and darkrooms.

Wisely steering well clear of the gawgaws of showbiz (Tony Hancock's homberg, Terry Wogan's *Blankety Blank* microphone), the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television is nevertheless unashamedly populist. Running parallel to its permanent exhibition is a changing series of temporary displays, films and talks, all arranged with the single purpose of getting the public in and keeping it coming. This summer the museum is running its most extensive programme ever, and it is no coincidence that many of the events are designed to appeal to young people with school holidays or college vacations to fill.

In July there has been a series of films attempting to explain "The Meaning of Python", if there is or ever really was one. And now for *Something Completely Different*, *Monty Python's Life of Brian* and other assorted films made by or starring the Python irregulars have been presented in the IMAX cinema—introduced by a real, live, silly-walking Python.

On Saturdays and Sundays in August a programme entitled "Comic Strip Heroes" brings together feature films chronicling the adventures of everyone from Charlie Chan and the incredible Hulk to Spiderman, the Pink Panther and Charlie Brown. An odyssey down the by-ways of cinema history.

There is a four-day course on flash photography (August 7-10) in which the first two days will be spent on location at the nearby Bradford Industrial Museum, an exhibition entitled "Pioneers of Photojournalism" featuring the work of Erich Saloman and Felix Man, which was opened by Sir Tom Hopkinson on July 12 and not forgetting those who don't know the difference between upgrading and their f-stops—every weekend between July 20 and September 4 the foyer will be full of local buskers, singers and mime artists.

Further information about the museum and its summer events from the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, Princes View, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD5 0TR (tel: Bradford 0274-727488)

Nest building

Animals as Architects
Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (tel: 01-589 6323)
Until September 1. Admission free.

"Birds build but not I build" wrote Gerard Manley Hopkins. Could he have had in mind the edible-nest wrenlet who builds her nest in the caves of South East Asia from her own saliva? Or the baya weavers who weave a basket a foot long on which to sling their young? The excellent exhibition at the Natural History Museum which forms part of the RIBA's festival of architecture challenges man's high opinion of his works: anything we can do some animal can do—and has been doing for some millions of years.

The exhibition is divided into six parts, with specimens and dioramas from the museum's huge collection of mammals, birds, insects, fish and their dwellings. As "Why do Animals Build?" points out, the functions of construction are many: for food—trapping, cultivating and storing; for shelter—predators and weather; and for reproduction—courtship, birth and nurture. Appearance can be deceptive: where the potter wasp lays her egg on top of a nice juicy insect and seals the earthen lid, under a similar lid a trapdoor spider lurks waiting to drag passing prey into its muddy hole.

Animals that Build is a 14-minute film produced by the National Geographic Society. This is a lively look at types and functions of animal building from the spider's web to the beaver's lodge and from the potter wasp to the stickleback, with a final thought-provoking sequence of American Indians putting up a teepee.

"A Variety of Builders" includes lug worms and porcupines, moles in their burrows and the underground-nesting bee-eater bird. Not to mention the duck-billed platypus, cuddly even when stuffed. It goes on to show a little of the amazing variety of birds' nests.

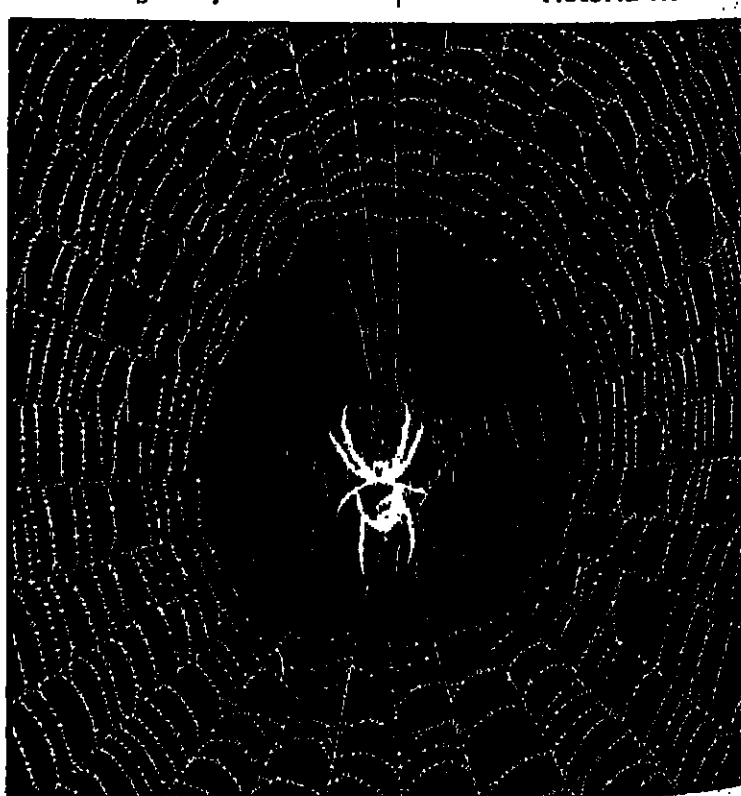
This is one of those exhibitions to come out of bursting with new bits of information. Did you know that the palm swift lays her eggs in a pad of palm down to which she glues them and incubates them by clinging vertically to the leaf? ... where the eider duck uses her soft down to feather the nest, the Cape penduline tit weaves a soft concealing tent flap of hair over the door and the rufous ovenbird builds a thick wall of mud and fibres around her tiny eggs? And as for the bower bird, he makes up for his dowdy plumage with a lavish honeycombed suite of a nest where courtship is facilitated by such gaudy joys as Coke bottle tops.

In the centre of the show a large model of a termite mound holds the gaze. "From Single Dwellings to Cities" looks at the multifarious constructions of insects, among which this city surely holds pride of place. Not only is it air-conditioned, and constantly warm and moist, but it also boasts a fungus garden, brood chambers, a royal bed where birth is given every three seconds and air changes. A 10m-high mound can house up to a million individuals. And we complain about tower blocks.

Saliva, faeces, silk, mucus: do-it-yourself has a whole new meaning in the "Animal Building Trade", as the final part of the exhibition points out. Tracing animal analogues to human implements, the exhibition returns to ourselves and a fresh realization that, as the film puts it, "man is just one of many animals that build".

The Teachers' Centre at the Natural History Museum is running concurrent teachers' seminars, now fully booked. They will also have a reference list available for teachers and strongly advise anyone contemplating a class visit to come beforehand and talk with the staff about ways of using the show to develop powers of observation and description.

Victoria Neumark



4 TELEVISION PROGRAMME RECORDING

Advance Information of Programmes Available for Recording For The Month of July 1984

August 2nd 17.30 Start Here
August 4th 14.00 Great Walls
August 9th 17.30 Start Here
August 10th 18.30 Today's History
August 11th 14.00 Great Walls

Fee Code D: August 15th 17.30 Splash
Fee Code B: August 18th 14.00 Great Walls
Fee Code B: August 22nd 17.30 Splash
Fee Code D: August 25th 14.00 Great Walls
Fee Code B: August 29th 17.30 Splash

Fee Code A: If you receive SIC please check broadcast times as these may vary.
Fee Code B: For synopsis see "See 4" and "TV Times". The List of Titles for August will be published in the Times Educational Supplement on 26th July. For more information contact:



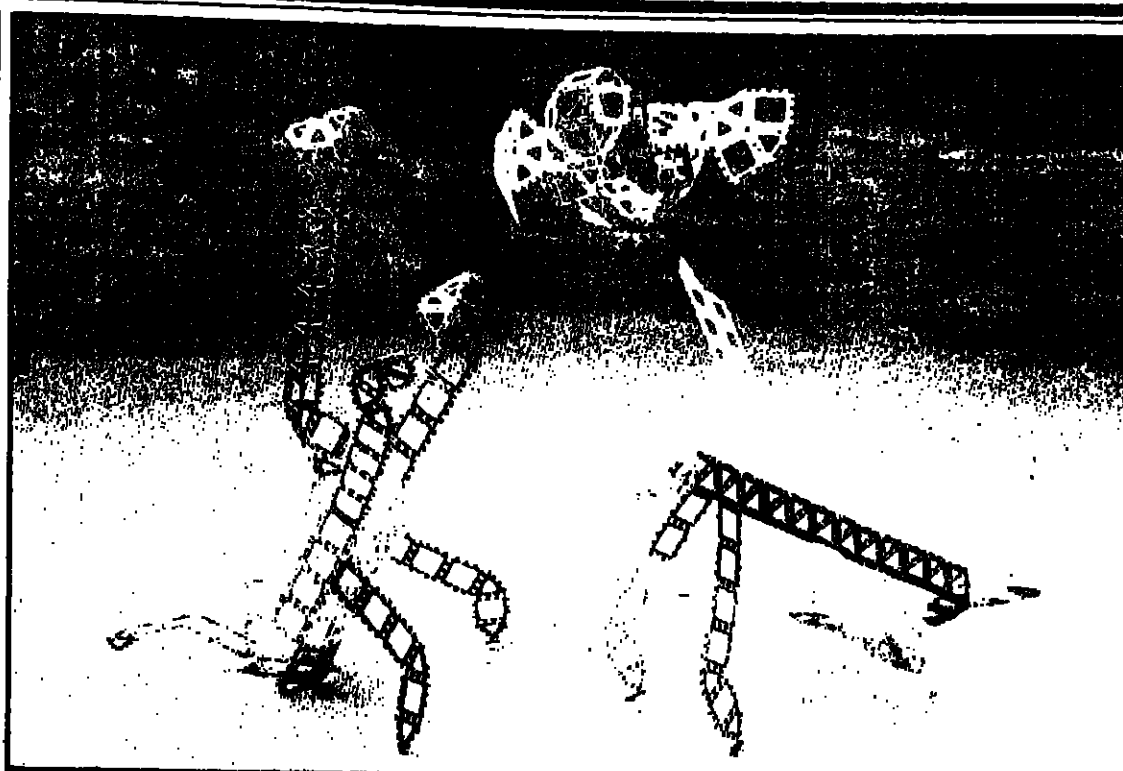
TV Recording Licence, Dept.
GUILD LEARNING
Guild House Peterborough PE2 9PZ
Telephone (0733) 63122

notes

WORKING IN... "booklets have been published by the MSC's Careers and Occupational Information Centre. The new areas covered are Community Care, Hospitals, Engineering Crafts and Journalism. The 16-page booklets are available, price 95p plus 25p postage, from the MSC, c/o Papworth Industries, Papworth Everard, Cambridge CB3 9HS.

FURNITURE, BOOKBINDING, CLOCKS These are the crafts to be represented at an open exhibition from August 1-September 23 at the Crafts Council, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4AU.

RESOURCES



Playtime

Gillian Thomas looks at quizzes, games and construction kits for the holidays

the idea of modelling. They fix snugly, but easily, together by fitting square ends into slots; wheels and animal figures add interest to the squares and rectangles.

Also for younger children, Galt have come up with packs of coloured plastic letters and numbers which adhere to any flat surface, while

Orchard Toys have three delightful new giant floor puzzles, 20 pieces in thick card on motorways, shopping and flying (£3).

The scope of *Quadro*, the giant construction system, is widened with the addition of driving mechanism components (£40). A series of gears slot into its large tubes in order to turn

axles. Thus vehicles with pedals and brakes and windmills with turning blades are now possible besides the basic climbing frame.

Polyplay (£100) is another new set of play equipment, handmade in wood by Cornish craftsmen. With just three items—a frame, slide and seesaw base—half-a-dozen different permutations

are possible. Novelty continues to bring that essential element of fun to toy ranges this year. For example, Salter's science sets which include chemistry, electronics and magnetism (£35 to £29), are now accompanied by 30-minute audiocassettes recorded by Johnny Ball, who specializes in math-based programmes on children's television. He provides a lively introduction to the subject and a useful guide to the experiments.

On a practical note, Bluebird's new *School Mate* (£3.25) is a novel time-table board, filled in with a wipeable felt pen. Bright yellow arrows can point to the particular subjects or times which the child needs to remember. It is welcome news that Plasticine has become washable. So removal from finger nails and carpets is much improved—and it can now be softened for modelling by moistening with water.

Waddington, Castle Gate, Oulton, Leeds.
Spears, Euston Road, Enfield.
M B (Millon Bradley), 97-107 Uxbridge Road, London W5.
Parker, The Pottery Co., Owen Street, Coalville, Leicestershire.
The Garden Game, Surveidell Farm, Grittleton, Wiltshire.
Lego, Wrexham, Clwyd.
Model 8, Unit 4, Little Marcle Road, Ledbury, Herefordshire.
Pedigree, Market Way, Canterbury.
Kiddicraft, Redlands, Coulsdon, Surrey.
Galt, Brookfield Road, Cheddar, Ches.
Orchard Toys, Canal Street, Nottingham.
Quadro, c/o Andaw Enterprises, 10 Southcliffe Road, Christchurch.
Polyplay, John Ward, Bethany, Tereleford, Nr. Salinas, Cornwall.
Salter's, Woodside Road, Glenrothes, Fife.
Bluebird, Cheney Manor and Estate, Swindon.
Plasticine, Peter Pan Playthings, Breton, Peterborough.

Phone-in

Cutting the Message
Price £5 (inc p&p)
British Telecom Education Service,
Room 417, 2-12 Gresham Street,
London EC2V 7AG.

How many telephones can you dial direct from your own? 50 million? 200 million? Wrong: 450 million, of which 28,500,000 are in the UK. This is just one surprising fact contained in this splendid collection of materials developed over the past year by BT's Education Service.

Phil Burdill of Foxford Comprehensive School, Coventry, was seconded to the project and his teacher's guide is full of practical classroom ideas and exercises which, although well known in other contexts, have been imaginatively applied to the teaching of modern communications. It also contains a helpful list of film and video resources.

Glossy booklets with superb colour illustrations combine informativeness with visual appeal. Topics include the telephone, radio, television, Postnet, electronic office, data transmission, switchboards and mobile communications. There is also a glossary and a series of question and answer sheets. Unfortunately, one of these wrongly says that there are 450 million phones in the UK, so perhaps some other "answers" should be treated with caution.

Intended for students aged 14 to 18, this package should be valuable not only to teachers of business studies and related subjects, but also in communications and general studies and for TVEI courses. Although the language is simple, there is nothing patronizing about the tone, and, at a bargain price of £5, further education colleges and ITECs may want at least one pack for reference.

My main criticism is of the blue folder in which the materials are displayed. It looks like a salesman's sample folder, designed to keep the contents glossy and pristine, but when you try to flip the materials you soon find that the packaging gets in the way. BT's current series of television adverts provide exciting visual material on the power behind the button: their educational value is limited by the ephemeral nature of the electronic image. This pack is a celebration of the economy, flexibility and permanence of print.

Jacquetta Megarry

Photo-reportage

Promises, Promises
A touring exhibition, available for hire, price £25; free to ILEA schools
Cockpit Gallery Holborn, Princeton Street, London WC1 (tel: 01-405 5334).

For my own generation, growing up in the aftermath of World War II, the map of childhood and its future possibilities was charted from the great legislative landmarks of the Education Act and the founding of the Welfare State. In the early fifties classrooms bulged with us, the children of parents convinced that the post-war world could offer us more than they'd had. The present classroom population may well look askance at those earlier visions of the future, but that's all the more reason for them to see the Cockpit's new touring exhibition, *Promises, Promises - Growing Up in the 50s and 60s*.

These photographs have been culled from the vast archive of Henry Grant, a photographer who took a particular interest in new developments in education and the social services. This was a period when photo-reportage was still

in its heyday, and Henry Grant's pictures appeared widely in the national dailies and the educational press. Through them more than two decades of changes in the field of education can be traced.

The chronicle begins in the austerity of the immediate post-war years. The image of a woman hanging out washing beside a cluster of Nissen huts on the South coast sticks in the mind as an almost cosy reminder of how acute the housing shortage was. Less nostalgic are the slum dwellings of London and Liverpool with the rationing queues from an earlier period.

The most immediate effects in legislation recorded here are those in child health care, shown in a series of photographs in hospital and clinic settings and in schools. A child health inspection in the early fifties is registered by the camera as a cheerful routine event.

The cramped Victorian school buildings are soon replaced for many children by the more airy glass-sided structures that may later seem too big for comfort. The comprehensive comes on the scene, and here's Kidbrooke, much photographed in 1954 as

the first purpose-built example. Technological hardware begins to enter the classroom. The teenage leisure boom gets under way and the world of style and consumerism outside seeps inside the school's four walls.

Rich in visual contrasts through the passage of time, these photographs cover the range of educational experience, from infants to sixth-formers, from crowded secondary modern playgrounds to the cloistered precincts of public schools. They also expose some of the unequal realities behind the powerful myth of social equality through education, by catching fragments of school experience from quite different worlds.

My one complaint is that the exhibition could have benefited from more explanatory text and less polemical generalisations, likewise the confusing graphics the exhibition organizers have used to illustrate the workings of the 11-plus. But one bonus on which the photographer has to be congratulated, is his welcome descriptions of his working methods, also provided in note form accompanying the exhibition.

Liz Heron



"Promises, Promises" is on show at the Watershed Gallery, Bristol, until August 4

Companion

The Micro User's Book of Tape Recording. By Mike Saleen
Price £2.95
Duckworth, The Old Piano Factory, 1984.

Many school users continue to depend on domestic cassette recorders as external computer memory. Even the growing number with disc systems still sometimes have to grapple with cassette loading and saving, if only because they had already invested so much in commercial cassette-based software. Much of this is protected against copying onto disc and manufacturers often charge unrealistic prices for a disc/cassette exchange.

This puts a heavy burden on a low-cost domestic device designed and bought (often years ago) for a completely different purpose. Problems over cassette loading and saving continue to be a major bugbear and cause tremendous frustration and time-wasting. Yet, despite an explosion in computer book publishing, this area has hitherto been surprisingly neglected.

Help has at last arrived in the form of a readable and affordable companion to all aspects of choosing, using and maintaining a cassette recorder. The author, Mike Saleen, has a pleasantly non-technical style and the book is both concise and informative, with many helpful diagrams and photographs. It draws on the experience of his company Hilderbay Ltd, one of the few software houses to market business and professional software on cassette. Their experience of supporting small businesses running their payroll (including SSP!) on a Sinclair Spectrum is reflected in the book's authority and practical advice.

This book is indispensable for anyone who has cassette problems or who is contemplating buying a cassette recorder for use with a computer. If you have been using a cassette recorder successfully so far and are not aware of the havoc that can be caused by dirty heads, stray magnetic fields of an incorrect head azimuth angle, read it before you find out the hard way. Not knowing where to look for your head azimuth angle is a good indication that you need this book.

JM

MEDIA

briefings
radio & tv

Open University

THE ENGLISH ROMANTIC POETS

AND ITALY
(Sunday 12.40, BBC2)
In the early 19th century Byron and Shelley fled from the repressive influence of England. This programme investigates how and why they found refuge in Italy.

POLITICAL EDUCATION

(Wednesday 23.20, VHF3)
How can political education flourish in the face of a tradition of neutrality and balance in publicly-funded institutions?

General interest

PLAYING SHAKESPEARE

(Sunday 19.15, C4)
The first of a nine-part series aiming to analyse and discuss actors' varying interpretations of Shakespeare's language.

LENDING A HAND

(Tuesday 23.00, VHF4)
A series for those interested in voluntary work within the community.

LIFE POWER

(Wednesday 23.40, BBC2)
New developments in fermentation technology.

For children

WHY DON'T YOU...?

(Monday-Friday BBC2
10.05, except Wed 9.35)
The team are back again with ideas on how to keep entertained and happy during the holidays without resorting to television all day.

START HERE

(Thursday 17.30, C4)
In this science series children learn how to grow coloured crystals, experiment with frozen molecules and look into a volcano.



Brian Cant, Tom Watt and Ling Tai in 'The Old Firm'

Stay-at-homes

Hugh David previews 'Starstrider' and 'The Old Firm'

CHILDREN'S TELEVISION

Starstrider
ITV, Thursdays 4.45-5.15pm.
The Old Firm: Two for starters
ITV, Monday July 30, 4.45-5.15pm.

Just in case there is anyone still out there, not lounging on beaches or barbecuing in the garden in this traditionally dead period of the television year, Granada Television begs leave to announce the arrival on your screens of one of the most imaginative children's quiz shows for quite some time.

The irony is that in *Starstrider* the eponymous hero and his sidekick Wart, leading lights in the recently-discovered Galactic Federation, have arrived on Earth at the height of British summer to look for signs of intelligence among us humanoids - but luckily it's not the Ambre Solaire and burnt sausage brigades they're after. *Starstrider* and Wart are interested in the stay-at-homes, for the quiz is about books and book-learning.

Teams from three schools compete to show just how intelligent they are - if we accept that true intelligence is not so much knowing something but know-

ing where to find it. They are equipped with sets of standard reference books from which they have to find the answers to *Starstrider*'s questions and then relay them to him via their captains, with whom they are only in radio contact. Intentionally, the questions are the sort which can only be answered with the aid of reference books. Who were the FA Cup winners in 1887? What is the first line of the Liberian national anthem? ("All hail, Liberia, hail", actually; but can you put your hand on your heart and say you would have known that without looking it up?)

There are lighter rounds - quick-fire general knowledge questions to be answered by one member of each team while sitting astride a bucking "Grunter Hunter", a deceptively simple little maze - but the books are the heart of the quiz. Begun, in the words of producer Mike Short, as "a last-ditch stand against bloody computers!", it may well have queues of children in school libraries next term patiently awaiting their turn with *Who's Who*, *Whitaker's Almanack*, atlases, dictionaries and the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Let's hope it will - really,

books do furnish a room so much more comfortably than floppy discs.

And now advance warning for those who like to be in on the ground-floor when it comes to new developments in juvenile culture: next Monday's *Dramarama* is a half-hour play which looks set to spawn a popular follow-up series.

Two for Starters (again produced by Granada, and their first offering in the class *Dramarama* slot) introduces us to *The Old Firm*, a threadbare private detective agency taken over by Brian Cant as an ex-Army major. Jenny, a quick-witted Chinese girl, and - to judge from the closing moments of the play - young Steve, a fast-talking Cockney wide boy. With a script by Dave Humphries, whose previous credits include episodes of *Minder*, slick and confident direction by Patrick Lau, car chases and a jewel robbery, the programme's style is not difficult to guess. Worth watching, though. *Two for Starters* is occasionally guilty of writing down to its audience, but Dave Humphries can do a lot better. Bearing in mind the success of *Minder*, *The Old Firm*'s potential is literally explosive.

Off the air

The BBC has taken a lot on the chin recently, but deserves credit for a long-awaited world first - a video production course called *On Camera*. This new course is comprised of four excellent videos - totalling 90 minutes, with a bonus of 38 minutes of "unedited" material tagged on to the end of the final tape - a handbook, and backup notes.

Tapes can be purchased separately, or as a package, and cover: camera movements; how to plan a programme; the best way to shoot interviews; editing. Summaries are clear and concise, without being patronizing.

On Camera was produced primarily for the BBC's own internal training department, with an eye to domestic and overseas sales (already the Far East have put in orders). Not only does the Training Department add a slick, professional finish to the productions, but it also avoids clichés.

Basic television principles are tackled. Tape one deals with the camera and various movements. Useful terms like track, tilt, pan, zoom in, and crab are dealt with, as well as f-stops and depth of field. But if you can only afford individual tapes, start with programme two. It shows you how to plan a programme, what to look out for, and how to make things happen for you on location. The producer wants you to be able to "plan well for the expected; then you can cover the unexpected".

The third area begins with a spoof non-starter interview, ironically called "Sixty Minute Profile". A simple one-camera interview is handled, along with how to cross-cut properly if you are fortunate enough to have two cameras. Basic studio techniques are looked at. And for the adventurous, interviews while walking, in a car and "on situ" are demonstrated wittily with a rather, boisterous retired general.

Most useful of all will probably be the final tape on editing. A real news story is available here in three forms - unedited, edited, and rough cut with the final version inset on screen. The extra rushes provided to practise with are a nice touch. An idea is given of how to perfect basic structure before paying attention to detail.

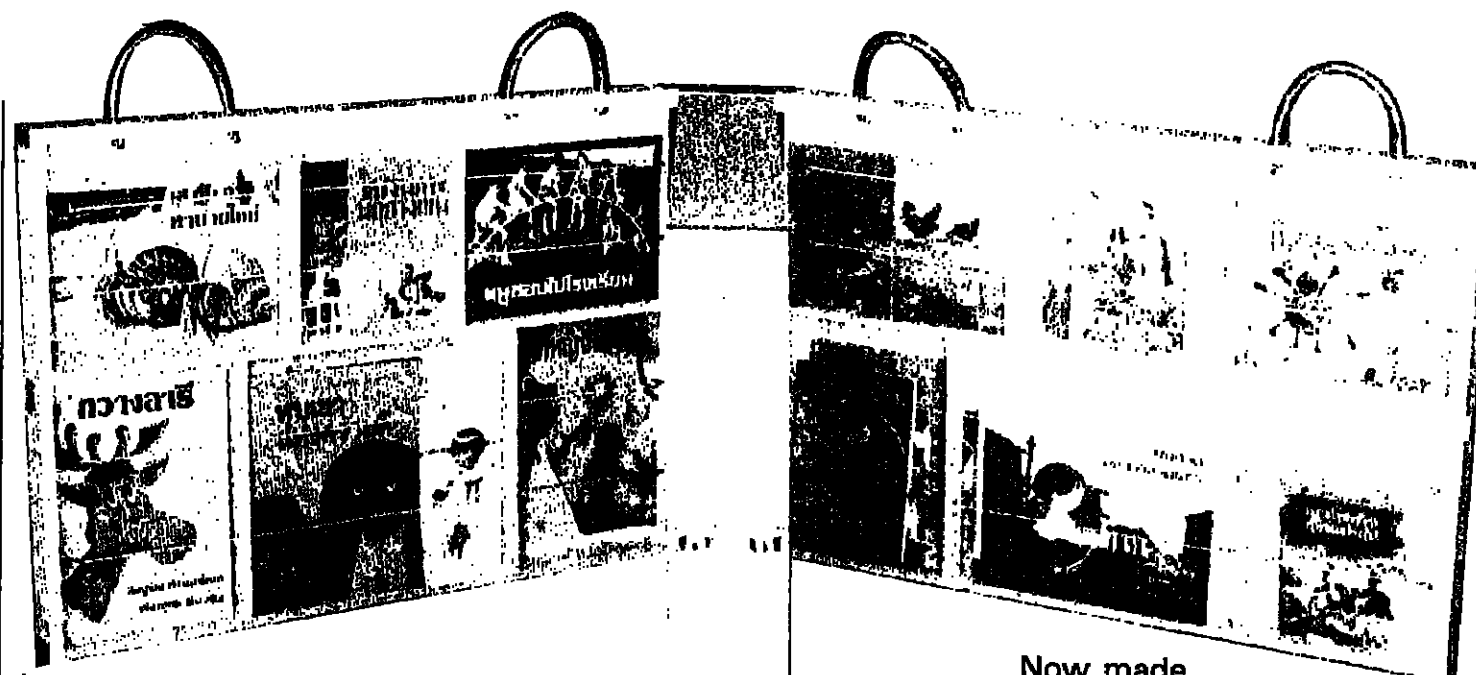
On Camera is aimed at secondary students, but a switched-on 12-year-old could easily learn what happens "off camera". Cheryl Markosky

Inquiries to BBC Education and Training Sales Dept 01-743 5588, ext 281

END PAGE

BOOK BOXES

Gillian Klein reports on the remarkable efforts of one woman to introduce literature to all primary children in Thailand.



Now made small enough to carry on a motorbike, the library boxes designed by Somboon Singamanan open up to reveal multiple shelves of carefully selected books.

the presses.

Developing and producing new textbooks is going on apace, and alongside it is being developed a children's literature. At present the opportunity for reading books simply ceases for those children who leave school after their free six years, especially in rural areas. The few books which do reach the villages are cheap and often sensational (no doubt to enlarge print runs) and shabbily produced. Not, in Somboon's view, suitable reading for 12-year-olds, or for anyone else.

The library service, as it is to be expected in a country without a strong literary tradition, is equated rather with study than with leisure, the best being university and academic libraries, of which the Asian Institute of Technology is a splendid example. The National Library does not have a children's section, though the central branch does roll out trucks of children's books into its libraries on weekends. But branches in other major towns have no such facilities and the smaller units are run by staff with no professional qualifications and who would be neither aware of the reading requirements of children nor able to organize resources to meet them.

With parents likely to believe that primers and encyclopaedias are the only books from which their children could benefit, publishers are thin on the ground. In a sad circle of dearth of demand and so of supply, there are few buyers and few publishers and distributors of children's books, few writers and few illustrators. And so there are few readers.

Somboon is attacking this self-perpetuating circle at several points. Students from her Children's Literature Course are expected to read as many as possible of the collection she has built up of children's fiction, primarily in English. When the students then go to teach in schools where books are scarce or non-existent, they have to serve, as she puts it, as "living libraries", telling the stories from memory.

These students have also learnt what children's books around the world have in common; how they help children to learn about and appreciate their own and other cultures, and what makes a story appealing, enduring, of merit. The students also make translations of the stories into Thai, which are attached to the books, thus learning a good deal about style.

Many of these students are becoming children's book authors. In their creative writing workshops, they are encouraged to create their own imaginative stories or to narrate for children a tale told to them as children. Students also collect folktales from their own localities and record them.

Later, as librarians or teachers, they invite children to share their folktales, so that some of the vast oral tradition of Thailand is now being salvaged and preserved in print. Stories developed in these ways are tested on the children; the students thus stimulate an interest in stories and often themselves develop considerable skill in telling and in some cases writing them.

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Telephone: 01-486 1362

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CONTACT NAME: _____ POSITION: _____
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4. Television Programme Recording

Titles Available for Week Commencing Sunday 29th July 1984

Thursday August 2
17.30 Start Here: Mix A Material
fee code D

Saturday August 4
14.00 Great Walks: Cape Wrath
fee code B

(No. This programme is subtitled for the benefit of deaf viewers)

For More Information Contact:

TV Recording Licence Dept.

GUILD LEARNING

Guild House, Peterborough PE2 9PZ

Telephone: 01753 63122

Small talk

Victoria Neumark on Thames Television's reissue on video of 'Understanding Toddlers'

VIDEO

Understanding Toddlers
Thames Television
Five 26-minute episodes on VHS or Betamax £65
Special hire offer to playgroups, National Childbirth Trust groups etc, £20 per five weeks hire of series, from Guild Learning, Guild House, Oundle Road, Peterborough PE2 9PZ (tel: 0733-63122).

There has been a well-publicized trend recently in books about childcare; talk about "taming the enemy" and the need for strictness has superseded talk about fostering creativity. Brenda Crowe, author of *Play is a Feeling* and adviser to *Understanding Toddlers*, is too wise to make those sorts of oppositions.

In this useful reissue of Thames Television's series, care has been taken to lay equal stress on the needs of parents and their children, on the delights of play, and the need to tidy up, on spontaneity and the setting of limits. Though the marionette Anna Ford's introductions are a touch artificial and Tom Crabtree's offerings as an educational psychologist are woolly, Mrs Crowe's comments are well worth a look.

Five topics are covered. The needs of parents, mothers and fathers; the needs of toddlers; anxieties; hyperactivity; and setting limits are discussed in half-hour episodes. The first two

programmes, focusing largely on parents' sense of inadequacy, are less successful than the others. I am not sure that guilt is so widespread as these mothers made it out to be, nor that all fathers are so solemn about "taking an interest". Fun seems a little left out.

Towards the end of the third programme, however, with the arrival of Althea talking about her books on common childhood anxieties, the tempo picks up. Top many talking heads give way to entertaining illustration - at last, some toddlers in the flesh! A section on messy play as a way of learning and using up energies is very good and does not dodge the messiness which makes it such a bane to parents and a glory to children. A few more suggestions on how to organize it in a small space would have been a good idea, but perhaps these might come up in discussion among groups. Play, though, does vary enormously in the age span from one to four-years-old, and this is insufficiently indicated here.

The fourth programme, on hyperactivity, is the most informative and should be shown to all pre-natal classes. Both elements shown (the informal support network and the medical establishment) were well explained and discussion of the treatment options available, from special diets cutting out all food additives to supervised medication, was well intercut with footage of parents and their children. This sort of lively approach wins attention and sympathy.

The final programme, on setting



limits, carries on with showing children at play. A most moving illustration of how a younger child may defeat an older one bent on stealing his toy gives the whole discussion point. It is moral authority, consistency and honesty on the part of the parents which really give the child the discipline he or she needs to survive, not the smacking of their learning. Mrs Crowe rightly stresses the need to treat your child as a reasonable being you hope it may become, the need to make it up, to love and touch and admit it if the adult is wrong too. Her advice on tantrums is excellent. As Diane, watching live from me, said, "most parents just live from day to day", but this series could help make each day a little bit more harmonious.

Classified Advertisements

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INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

continued

FIFE

ST. LEONARDS SCHOOL
St. Andrews
Required for September 1984 an honours graduate or specialist in the history of art, architecture, or architecture. The subject is to be taught to advanced level and throughout the school in close relation to 20th century projects.

Required for September 1984 an honours graduate to teach Economics to A level standard and with a second subject, possibly business studies.

Residential or non-residential posts, possible for married couple. No accommodation for children.

Please apply to the Headmaster with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (0895) 185624

LONDON W13

Co-educational Day school in Ealing requires the following staff for September:
Full time general subject teacher to teach French up to 'O' level. Age range - 10 to 16 years. At least 10 years' experience. Only general subject teacher. N.N.E.B. apply with full details of qualifications and experience to the Principal, Hamilton House School, 10 The Avenue, West Ealing, W13 8LS. (08785) 185624

LONDON WC1

Required for September 1984 an honours graduate to teach 'O' and 'A' levels in Accounts, Chemistry, Physics, Computer Studies, Mathematics, Economics, English, Latin, Applied Maths, Sociology, Statistics and Technical Drawing. For further details please write to the Principal, Hamilton House School, 10 The Avenue, West Ealing, W13 8LS. (08785) 185624

LONDON

YESODEY HATORAH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A post is available in the Senior School (Years 9-13) for someone qualified to teach Computer Studies and General Science up to level. (P.G.C.E. preferred). (0895) 185624

Please apply in writing, enclosing a c.v. and the names of two referees to: The Headmaster, Yesodey Hatorah School, 9-11 Annandale Park, W16. (08978) 185624

SUSSEX

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Boarding & Day School - 50 Boys

Required from September 1984:

1) English Master to 'O' Level

2) Geography/Economics to 'O' Level

3) French/Music

The first two posts are residential - single accommodation only available. The third post is either residential or non-residential.

Please forward your c.v. and names of two referees to: The Headmaster, Goring Hall School, 105 Way, Bognor Regis, Sussex. RH11 4DX. (01100) 185624

SUSSEX

Chemistry A level, Maths A and O level, teachers required for September 1984. Salary to be discussed with the Headmaster. The Chairman, Michael Hall School, Forest Hill, Brighton, RH11 4DX. (01100) 185624

MARYMOUNT SCHOOL

Kingston upon Thames, Surrey

Required for September a full-time teacher of

COMPUTER STUDIES AND PHYSICS

responsible for teaching computer studies throughout the school and Physics to 'O' level.

Marymount is a Roman Catholic day and boarding school attended by 200 girls aged 12-18. The American curriculum and the International Baccalaureate programmes are offered.

Salary scale above Burnham.

Qualified and experienced candidates apply in writing and send c.v. to: The Principal, Marymount School, George Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

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Tel: 0732 44880
(P.V.B. page 491 & 624)

Preparatory Schools

By Subject Classification

Classics

Other Assistants

KENYA

NAIROBI KENYAN COLLEGE

Required for January 1984 a teacher of Latin with subsidiary subject. The post is resident and the person appointed should be able to assist with boarding and extra-curricular duties. Please send C.V. to Headmaster at 263 Howells Road, Bristol. (08781) 201624

Modern Languages

Other Assistants

DERBYSHIRE

Teacher of FRENCH required from September 1984 at a boarding school. An interest in games or extra-curricular activities would be helpful. Burnham Scale. Government Superannuation. Single accommodation available. Apply with full details to the Headmaster, Stancliffe Hall, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire, giving telephone numbers of two referees. (07110) 203624

SURREY

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL
St. Michael's, Surrey (I.A.P.S. Boys' Day School) Required for September 1984 a qualified teacher to take French up to P.6.5. level with another subject such as History, Geography or Science. Normal duties and games. Accommodation available for a single person. Salary Burnham scale 1, possibly scale 2 for the right person. Apply in writing with c.v. and names of two referees to the Headmaster. (0895) 203624

Physical Education

Other Assistants

HAMPSHIRE

Qualified P.E. and games teacher (male) required for September. Accommodation available. Person appointed must have little academic teaching.

Ring Headmaster, Boundary Oak, Farnham, Hampshire at Farnham, GU10 3JL. (02523) 204924

Science

Other Assistants

LONDON NW8

Required in September 1984 an honours graduate to be in charge of the Science Department in this leading North London Preparatory School. Salary to be discussed with the Headmaster. Apply in writing to the Headmaster, Arnold House School, 105 Wood Lane, London NW8 0LN. (01100) 185624

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Colleges of Further Education

Heads of Department

EAST SUSSEX

HASTINGS COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION
Hastings, East Sussex

Required for September 1984 an honours graduate to be in charge of the Science Department in this leading North London Preparatory School. Salary to be discussed with the Headmaster. Apply in writing to the Headmaster, Arnold House School, 105 Wood Lane, London NW8 0LN. (01100) 185624

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Lothian Regional Council
STEVENSON COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATIONSENIOR LECTURER II
GENERAL EDUCATION

Salary on Scale: £10,881-£12,777

To be responsible for all aspects of administration and co-ordination of the SCE/GCE Courses for full-time and part-time students administered by the Department of Communication and General Studies.

Applicants should hold a degree or equivalent qualification and have substantial administrative experience in Further Education.

SENIOR LECTURER I
ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

Salary on Scale: £8,688-£11,835

Required to organise the teaching of Economics throughout the College across a range of courses and assist in the administration of the Department of Professional and Social Studies 16+ modular programme.

Applicants should hold a degree or equivalent in Economics and have had teaching experience in Further Education.

Application forms and further particulars from: The Principal, Stevenson College of Further Education, Bankhead Avenue, Edinburgh EH11 4DE. Tel: 031-465 0181.

(1890)

Lancashire
County Council

W. R. TUSON COLLEGE, ST. VINCENT'S ROAD, FULWOOD, PRESTON.

1st September, 1984, or as soon as possible thereafter

TWO POSTS:-

1. Lecturer 1 - Nursery Nursing. To teach health studies to nursery nursing students.

2. Lecturer 1 - Home Economics: Cooking and needlecraft and general crafts - for craft courses.

Forms/further details regarding the above from/to the Chief Administrative Officer at the College. SAE please.

(1890)

ACCINGTON & ROSSENDALE
COLLEGE, SANDY LANE,
ACCINGTON.

TWO POSTS:-

1. 1st September, 1984. Re-advertisement

Lecturer Grade I - Health Education - To teach within the N.N.E.B. and C.G.L.I. full time course.

Polytechnics

LONDON

POLYTECHNIC OF THE SOUTH BANK
Borough Road, London E1 6AA

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL BAKERY SCHOOL
L/1/L/1/L

Ref: NBS. 01

Applications are invited for a vacancy at the National Bakery School due to the appointment of a new Head of School.

The level of the post offers will be based on the qualifications and teaching experience of the candidate.

Salary range:
LI: £6,636 (X 15) - £10,782 p.a.
LII: £8,202 (X 10) - £12,535 p.a.
SL: £11,670 (X 6) - £14,450 p.a.

Inclusive of London Allowance.

Application forms and details available by telephone. The Staffing Office on 01-928 8599.

Closing date for this post is 30.8.84.

The Polytechnic is an Equal Opportunities Employer. (09779) 860026

Fellowships, Research Awards

UNIVERSITY OF READING
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Applications are invited for a Research Fellowship (with graduate teachers with primary school experience and an interest in using computers to develop reading and language skills). The appointment is for a fixed period of three years, starting salary up to £9,000 p.a. O.S.B. super-annuation.

Apply quoting Ref. 335A for further particulars and application forms. (3 copies to Personnel Office, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 2AA. Closing date 17th August 1984. (04303) 300000

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

Department of Adult and Continuing Education

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Principal
as from 1st September, 1985

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Colleges of Higher Education

Other Appointments

LANCASTER

S. MARTIN'S COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Lancaster

PART-TIME LECTURER IN DRAMA

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Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Principal, S. Martin's College of Higher Education, Lancaster LA1 5JD. Completed applications forms should be returned by 10 August 1984. 340055

DERBYSHIRE
DERBYSHIRE COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LECTURER IN DANCE

(Temporary, Part-time)

A suitably qualified and experienced person is required to teach Dance from 1984 for this post which may be up to half-time.

The Lecturer will be required to teach Primary Dance, students: theoretical and practical aspects of the Dance component of Human Movement Studies courses; Dance Curriculum Studies.

Application forms and further particulars from the Derbyshire College of Higher Education, Kedleston Road, Derby D2 3GJ. Tel: Derby 47181. Ext. 55. To whom completed forms should be returned by Monday 13th August 1984. (07140) 340055

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A suitably qualified and experienced person is required to teach Dance from 1984 for this post which may be up to half-time.

The Lecturer will be required to teach Primary Dance, students: theoretical and practical aspects of the Dance component of Human Movement Studies courses; Dance Curriculum Studies.

Application forms and further particulars from the Derbyshire College of Higher Education, Kedleston Road, Derby D2 3GJ. Tel: Derby 47181. Ext. 55. To whom completed forms should be returned by Monday 13th August 1984. (07140) 340055

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
Department of Adult and Continuing Education

CONTINUING EDUCATION LIAISON UNIT
(For Industry and Commerce)

The University proposes to set up a special unit, based in the Department of Adult and Continuing Education, to coordinate and promote the provision of specialised courses for industrial and commercial concerns and for professional groups.

Overseas Cont.

Posts Overseas

Czechoslovakia

2 Lecturers in English
Comenius University,
Bratislava and
Palacky University,
Olomouc

Duties: To teach English as a foreign language to Czechoslovakian undergraduates, 18-22 years.
Qualifications: Candidates must be British nationals, between 25-40 with a British Arts degree, preferably in English or Modern Languages, and a diploma or equivalent qualification in TEFL. At least 3 years' relevant teaching experience is essential. Single candidates are preferred and some knowledge of a Slav language would be an advantage.
Salary: 2000 Crowns per month, minimum, paid locally (£1 = 18.35 Kcs). Sterling subsidy £4,185 per paid in Britain.
Benefits: Free accommodation, superannuation contribution, return fares, baggage.
Contract: One year local contract renewable starting September 1984.
Reference: BA 8 38-39 T.

Iraq

6 Teachers of English
The British Council, Baghdad

Duties: To teach EFL to adults, mostly Iraqi, in mixed classes from beginners to Cambridge FCE levels for 24 class contact hours each week.
Qualifications: Candidates, preferably under 30, should be single, or married teaching couples, with a degree or teaching certificate, RSA Dip/PGCE TEFL or Diploma in TEFL or RSA Prep. Cert. and at least 2 years' overseas experience.
Salary: £7,101-£10,101 tax free.
Benefits: Overseas allowances £4,693-£3,957 for single candidates depending on salary level; free furnished accommodation, overseas medical scheme; 42 days mid-tour fare paid leave; outfit, trunk and baggage allowance.
Contract: Two-year contracts with the British Council in London starting 1 September 1984.
Reference: BA D 6-11 T.

Turkey

3 Teachers of English
Turco-British Association,
Istanbul

Duties: To teach English Language to Turkish students at beginner level; some materials production for courses required.
Qualifications: Degree in English or Modern Languages, RSA TEFL. Single candidates, with at least 2 years' relevant experience, aged 25-35 preferred.
Salary: £5,000 per annum payable in Turkish Lira.
Benefits: Free; baggage; rent allowance.
Contract: 2-year contracts, renewable, commencing September 1984, guaranteed by the British Council.
Reference: BA B 9-11 T.

United Arab Emirates

11 English Teachers
4 Maths/Science Teachers
Al Nahda National Schools,
Abu Dhabi

Duties: To teach 4-6 year olds in the English-medium Kindergarten, 6-13 year olds in the English-medium primary section or English language to children 14-16 in the Arabic-medium section.
Qualifications: Candidates single or married teaching couples, aged 25-40, must be UK citizens with a British educational background and teaching qualification with at least 2 years' experience. A TEFL qualification would be an advantage.
Salary: Approximately 4,800 DHS per month, tax free (£1 = 4.8475 DHS approx.).
Benefits: Free furnished accommodation including utilities. Single male candidates will

be housed in studio flats in accommodation block at the Boya' School. Married couples and single girls will be accommodated in flats at the Girls' School. Girls will be required to share accommodation. Annual passage paid leave; baggage entitlement.
Contract: One-year, renewable, contract guaranteed by the British Council commencing September 1984.
Closing date for applications: 10 August 1984.
Reference: BA A 109 123 T.

Key English Language Teaching Scheme

The KELT Scheme is part of Britain's Aid programme for developing countries.

Cameroon

English Language Adviser for In-Service Training of Secondary Teachers of English Project Ministry of Education, Bamenda

Duties: To train teachers in the Province of Bamenda in the use of a teachers' manual recently drawn up by the Project; to investigate and develop possibilities arising from the above of extension into English for other subjects, particularly through preparation of syllabuses and sample materials and related in-service teacher training; to advise on current reforms of 'A' level and teachers' examinations.
Special Qualifications: Candidates, preferably aged 30-45, should be single, or married without school age children at post, and have a first degree in English or Modern Languages plus MA Applied Linguistics or PGCE in TEFL; at least 4 years' relevant overseas experience, including teaching English in English medium at secondary school level and teacher training experience.
Salary: £3,716-£11,886 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: £3,465-£4,086 pa depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 57 T.

Egypt

Post 1: Consultant (Universities) Centre for Developing English Language Teaching (CDEL)
Ain Shams University, Cairo

Duties: As part of a team of 7 KELT officers to implement the curriculum outreach project for pre-service training in collaboration with provincial universities; in co-operation with Egyptian colleagues to oversee the curriculum materials already in use in the first and second year programmes; to advise on the third and fourth years courses; to conduct informal (workshop) training of local staff and to assist in whatever additional duties the CDEL team leader deems necessary, eg. research, conferences and other team activities.
Special Qualifications: MA in Applied Linguistics and 10 years' experience of teaching at university level, at least partly overseas, including testing and teacher training. A willingness to travel outside Cairo is essential. A knowledge of Arabic an advantage.
Salary: £11,061-£15,311 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: Nil-£1,287 depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 10 T.

Post 2: Consultant (Postgraduate Training) Centre for Developing English Language Teaching (CDEL)
Ain Shams University, Cairo

Duties: As part of the above team to be responsible with Egyptian colleagues, for planning, coordinating and teaching within an ongoing professional diploma programme for advanced graduate teacher trainees and supervisors. Working closely with Egyptian

colleagues, to restate an MA in TEFL; to supervise and counsel postgraduate students; to produce relevant materials and to assist in whatever additional duties the team leader deems necessary.
Special Qualifications: MA in Applied Linguistics. A minimum of 5 years' experience in teacher training at university level and in supervising research are essential. An interest in teacher evaluation and counselling desirable. Knowledge of Arabic an advantage.
Salary: £11,061-£15,311 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: Nil-£1,287 pa depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 11 T.

Yemen Arab Republic

Post 1: Specialist in ESP Teacher Training and Course Design, Language Centre University of Sana'a

Duties: To determine the training needs of Yemeni Language Instructors and other ELC Language Teachers; design and implement an orientation programme in Language Instructors followed by lesson observation, teaching practice, reading and discussion; design and implement staff seminar programmes on class management, correction techniques, AVA etc; design and coordinate English language Communication Skills courses for eg Science, Medicine, Engineering; to teach one credit course for up to 8 hours a week. The postholder will work to the KELT Head of the Unit.
Special Qualifications: ESP experience essential plus teacher training experience preferably at university level.
Salary: £3,716-£11,886 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: £1,616-£5,531 pa depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 23 T.

Post 2: Teacher Trainer Language Centre, University of Sana'a

Duties: The postholder will be responsible to the Director of the Language Centre for analysing the needs, and designing and teaching courses for English Language Teacher Trainees including 2nd year experience in curriculum and methods of teaching aids; for designing, implementing, coordination and evaluating English Language Communications Skills courses for 1st and 2nd year trainees; and assisting in planning future in-service training courses for teachers.
Special Qualifications: Overseas teacher training experience preferably at tertiary level essential, plus experience of curriculum development course work.
Salary: £11,061-£15,311 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: £767-£3,180 pa depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 24 T.

Zimbabwe

EAP Course Design Adviser Communication Skills Unit University of Zimbabwe, Harare

Duties: To carry out needs analyses, to design, produce and select materials for English courses for students in the first and second years of the faculties of Engineering and Medicine to pilot, evaluate and revise such materials and teach as appropriate to the programme's development in co-operation with the existing Communication Skills Unit agreement with the University.
Special Qualifications: Candidates must have an MA in Applied Linguistics and at least 5 years' experience of ESOL overseas including experience of ESP course design and implementation, preferably with a bias towards EAP/EST.
Salary: £11,061-£15,311 per annum.
Overseas Allowance: Nil to £1,350 depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: BA K 53 T.

General Qualifications for KELT posts: All candidates must have a degree or equivalent teaching qualification including TEFL or educational qualification plus a postgraduate qualification in TEFL or Applied Linguistics; at least 5 years' experience of which 2 should be overseas.
Closing date for applications: 8 August for Cameroon and Yemen Arab Republic and 15 August for Egypt and Zimbabwe. Posts ignable from September 1984.

The following posts are also funded under Britain's Aid programme for developing countries:

Cameroon

Post 1: Physics Teacher Adviser South West Province Buea
Post 2: Mathematics Teaching Adviser North West Province, Bamenda
Ministry of National Education

Duties for both posts: Initially to conduct a teachers' needs analysis and investigate the possibility of establishing centres of excellence to use as models; subsequently to organise and run in-service teacher training sessions and produce teaching guidelines and related materials; to collaborate on syllabus and teacher development; to advise the Ministry on examination development.
Qualifications for both posts: Candidates, preferably without school age children at post, must have a first degree in Physics or Mathematics as appropriate, plus a Secondary Teacher Training certificate and at least 5 years' teaching and teacher training/Local Authority experience. MEd/MSc Physics or Mathematics as appropriate desirable. Overseas experience and the ability to drive essential.
Salary for both posts: £3,716-£11,887 per annum.
Overseas Allowance for both posts: £3,465-£4,086 pa depending on salary level and marital status.
Reference: Post 1: BA K 58 T.
Post 2: BA K 59 T.

Nepal

Teacher of Physics Budhanilkantha School

Budhanilkantha School is situated in Kathmandu and is an English medium boarding school with approx. 600 Nepalese pupils aged 9-18. The Headmaster and 7 other staff have been recruited by the British Council.
Duties: To teach Physics and possibly some General Science throughout the School up to Cambridge Overseas 'A' level standard rising possibly to 'A' level standard; to become a member of one of the school houses and to be involved in related duties; to assist with extra-curricular activities; to participate in visits to select pupils for the School from outlying areas.
Qualifications: Candidates, preferably single and male aged 25-40, should have a BSc in Physics plus a postgraduate teaching qualification or a BEd in Physics; a minimum of 3 years' teaching experience; proven ability of teaching Physics to 'A' level standard is essential; sympathy with the boarding school ethos is essential.
Salary: £3,936-£10,119 per annum.
Closing date for applications: 10 August 1984. Post tenable from November 1984.
Reference: BA K 22 T.

For all above Posts:
General Qualifications: Candidates must be UK citizens with a British educational background.
Benefits: Salary free of UK Income tax; variable overseas allowance; free family passages; children's education allowance and holiday visits; free furnished accommodation; 'outfit allowance'; medical scheme; baggage allowance; paid leave; employers' contribution to a recognised superannuation scheme or an allowance of 11% of salary in lieu.
Contract: Will be for 2 years initially with the British Council.

For further details and an application form, please write, quoting the post reference number to: Overseas Educational Appointments Department, The British Council, 90-91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT.

●●●●● The British Council ●●●●●

ADMINISTRATION L.E.A. continued

HAMPSHIRE

RE-ADVERTISEMENT

HAMPSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CAREERS SERVICE

HALF-TIME CAREERS ADVISER (SCHOOLS)

ADVISER (SCHOOLS)

ADVISER (SCHOOLS)

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

EDUCATION OFFICER (Schools)

Grade PO3 Salary £16,020 to £17,046 pa plus £777 London Weighting

Following the retirement of the present postholder this third tier post will become vacant from 1 September 1984.

The Postholder will be Head of the Schools Branch, and will have responsibility for the development and implementation of policy as it affects all matters of schools administration.

Applicants should have considerable experience of the Education Service, teaching experience and proven managerial ability.

NOT SUITABLE FOR JOB SHARING
Application forms and job description from the Personnel Division Room 1 Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9BP returnable 18 August. Telephone 01-603 0371 (24 hour Answerphone service). Reference number E/16 must be quoted.

(1882)

London Borough of **BRENT** *Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

GENERAL ADVISER

(DESIGN EDUCATION)
Head Teacher Group 8 £13953/£15189

Applications are invited for this post from well-qualified people with substantial experience in the fields of Art & Design and Craft & Design, familiar with recent work in these areas and having knowledge and understanding of major developments taking place more widely within the Education & Arts Service.

Experience and responsibility at a senior level in schools or colleges is essential. Previous work as an Adviser or in teacher training would be advantageous. Applicants should have good academic qualifications, preferably up-to-date.

General Advisers in Bolton are organised on a team basis responsible for a group of primary and secondary schools within the Authority.

The post will be available from 6th August, 1984 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Application forms and further details, which are available from the Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Bolton, BL1 1RU (Tel 0201 2231 ext 687 & 6100) should be returned by 7th August, 1984. Trade Union Membership is a condition of service.

(1882)

Cheshire Director of Education £28,137 - £31,122

Applicants should be suitably qualified and have extensive experience at senior management level in the education service.

Application form and further particulars from:

The County Personnel Officer,
Cheshire County Council,
County Hall, Chester CH1 1SF
(Tel: 0244-802272).

Closing date 24th August 1984.

All applicants will be considered on the basis of suitability for the post, regardless of sex, race, marital status, religion or disability.

Devon County Council

Senior Careers Officer

£9060-£9660

We require a qualified and experienced Careers Officer to lead a team based at Anglia House, Derrys Cross, Plymouth. Application form from the Chief Education Officer, County Hall, Exeter, EX2 4QG, returnable by 8 August 1984.



DEVON

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Educational Psychologist

Salary at an appropriate range on the National Scale for Educational Psychologists, taking into account age and experience.

Applicants should be suitably qualified educational psychologists, who hold an honours degree in psychology, two years teaching experience and postgraduate training in educational psychology. Psychologists currently completing their postgraduate training would be considered.

Duties involve working with individual children's problems, planning individual remedial programmes and advisory work in schools.

Within the borough educational psychologists work closely with other members of the support services (Special Education Advisory Teachers, Inspectors, English as a Second Language Teachers, and other specialist teachers).

The Schools Psychological Service shares office accommodation in 83 Aragon Road, Twickenham, with the Twickenham Child and Family Psychiatry Clinic, you will, therefore be a member of the clinic team network.

Informal enquiries Miss Ann Proffitt, Principal Educational Psychologist (01-892 1982).

Form and details from the Director of Education, Regal House, London Road, Twickenham TW1 3QB (01-891 1433, Ext. 281) returnable by 10th August 1984.

London Borough of RICHMOND UPON THAMES

(1882)

Child Care

EXPERIENCED single person required September 1984 to run boarding house in small, detached, international independent boys school, situated in 1958 0599 for application form (07132) 540000

Examiners

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

DIPLOMA AND ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN DRAMA IN EDUCATION (NEW SCHEME)

EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Additional External Examiners are required for the Board's Panel.

For further details and an application form, please contact Angela Flint, First Term Royal Society of Arts, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0EZ, Tel: 01-839 3366, Ext. 266, 108211 600000

Miscellaneous

HASTINGS HEALTH AUTHORITY HEALTH PROMOTION UNIT

Applications are invited for an 8 month fixed-term contract appointment for the post of Health Promotion Officer, to join a busy health promotion team. This is an interesting, challenging post, requiring the suitable applicant to work both as an independent professional and as a team member. Appropriate professional or health education qualifications essential. Salary starting at £4,464 rising to £9,095.

Enquiries to and applications to: Miss P. Faber, District Health Promotion Officer, 4 Elmwood, Gardens, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 4JL. Tel: 0434 4-1833. (07149) 600000

HAMPSHIRE SENIOR INSTRUCTOR (SPECIAL CARE)

Salary: £7,191 - £7,896 (depending on qualifications)
FERMOUNT CENTRE

Fermount is an award-winning Centre for mentally handicapped people close to the New Forest and the sea. We have a vacancy for a Senior Instructor to be responsible for the Special Care section and to be a member of the Management Team.

The Special Care unit caters for the needs of eight profoundly mentally handicapped adults. A balanced programme of activities is offered to reflect the individual needs of the students. Emphasis is placed on the individual assessment and low ratio teaching to allow each student to be a member of the Management Team.

The successful candidate will be responsible for three instructors working in the Unit and is directly responsible to the Manager. The ability to initiate, plan and implement teaching programmes based on detailed assessment in essential. The successful candidate must also have a team spirit and the ability to work within a team. Relevant experience and qualifications such as Dip. TMH or CSS are essential.

For further information about this post please contact Mrs. G. W. Smith, HRM, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0EZ. Tel: 01-839 3366, Ext. 266, 108211 600000

SPARE TIME French Educational Organisation seeks teachers for Homeostatic programmes in school year 10-11. London and suburbs. Homebased. Part time. Salary from £1,000 to £1,500. Tel: 01-892 4811. NWS 1092481 600000

